

# Plans put industrial classic in danger of redevelopment

ONE of Britain's "classic" industrial buildings of the 20th century, the Brynmawr Rubber Factory in South Wales, is threatened with demolition.

Designed by the Architects Co-Partnership and Ove Arup in 1946 and completed in 1952, the factory was listed by Cadw — the organisation set up by the Welsh Office to look after Wales' historical and architectural heritage six months ago.

It is the only post-war building in England and Wales to have been listed.

Plans for the factory's demolition are being put forward by Tenby Ltd, a Jersey-based property company. It has received a £200,000 grant from the

Welsh Development Agency for clearing the site, and has the added possibility of an urban development grant from the DoE and the local authority.

Tenby plans to demolish the concrete-domed structure to make way for car parking and

**By Amanda Baililleu**

improved access to steel-framed sheds on the site. Once the site is cleared more units are planned.

A spokesman for Blaenau Gwent council said: "In my opinion the factory is not an aesthetic beauty, and would be better used for redevelopment and attracting employment into the area."

He said architects acting for

Tenby, the Dale Kennedy Partnership, Cardiff, had estimated that up to £4 million would have to be spent on the factory if it was to be rehabilitated for alternative use.

The council claims the building is in a "shocking condition" after being abandoned four years ago.

But Architect Co-Partnership director Philip Groves, who visited the factory with Ove Arup in May, said the structure was sound, and the factory was "still as elegant as when it was built".

There are also fears that Tenby could start clearing the site before listed building consent. According to architect and lecturer Richard Parnaby, who lives near the site, "the building is getting rapidly less".

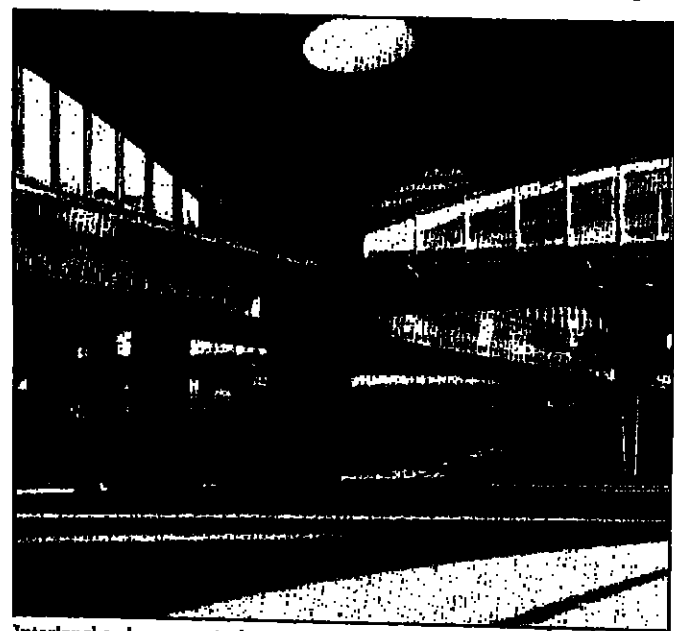
He asked Tenby if his final-year students at the Welsh School of Architecture could have access to the site for a design project examining possible alternative uses for it.

But Tenby refused him access, claiming that the building was unsafe and visitors could be in danger from asbestos in the air. Parnaby plans to use the design project as evidence at the public inquiry due to start in October.

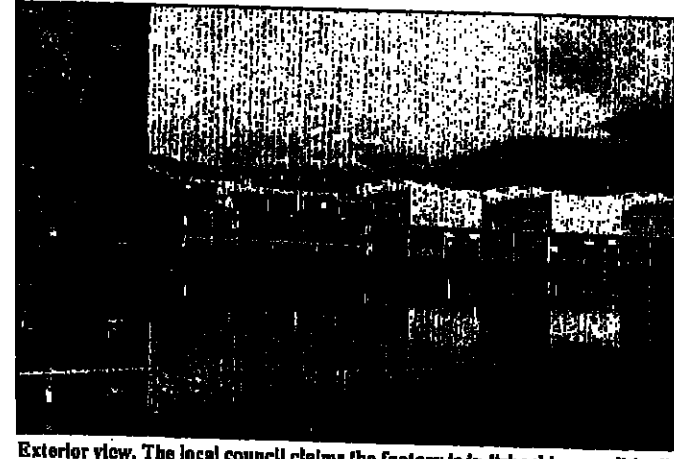
Opposition to Tenby's proposals has come from Cadw, Save, the Victorian Society and the Thirties Society, as well as local architects and conservationists.

The council said it received "numerous letters of detailed objections" but was still going ahead in preparing a case supporting demolition.

A final decision will be made by Welsh secretary Nicholas Edwards — not his inspector.



Interior showing concrete domes.



Exterior view. The local council claims the factory is in "shocking condition".

... signing off...



A SPURIOUS FORM OF CONTRACT

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## Architects missed at conference

THERE were architects at the conference on "Buildings and Behaviour" at St George's Hospital, south London, this week — but not many. Mostly the delegates were psychiatrists, social workers, GPs and hospital doctors, town planners and even members of the DoE.

The Biosocial Society organised the conference to look into the effects of town planning and building design on health and behaviour.

The varied programme included papers on designing guides to provide space for the

new affluence and materialism in the home of the 60s by Norman Shepherd, suitable containment and design provision for catering with the mentally ill and dangerous in regional secure units by Dr Peter Snowden, and the case for and against overhead walkways, deck access, and play areas from geographer and land-use specialist Alice Coleman.

Coleman advocated that walkways be removed and public and semi-public areas around blocks of flats be redefined as places of ownership, such as walled gardens. This would, she said, relieve those who had felt forced to board up their windows and allow them to enjoy natural daylight and encourage mothers

to let their children out to play and grow in confidence so that later they would not cling to the estate.

There was not, as far as I could gather, any contingency for families living above the ground floor.

The question of play areas became one of debate. Coleman reckoned they should be taken out of the estate and placed in traditional parks: they were never big enough around flats which meant balls being kicked through windows and more conflict. Tenants, said Coleman, hated them. Tony Gibson, who was instrumental in devising Town & Country Planning Association packs such as *Planning for Real*, found that given the opportunity to deter-

mine their environment residents favoured adventure playgrounds.

Dr Hugh Freeman, a psychiatrist at Salford University, felt that anything which maintained the social fabric of family and community life should be encouraged.

The demise of the Victorian street where children could run around together and mothers chat on the doorstep, and the disappearance of the corner shop as a point of integration, was not a cause for congratulation.

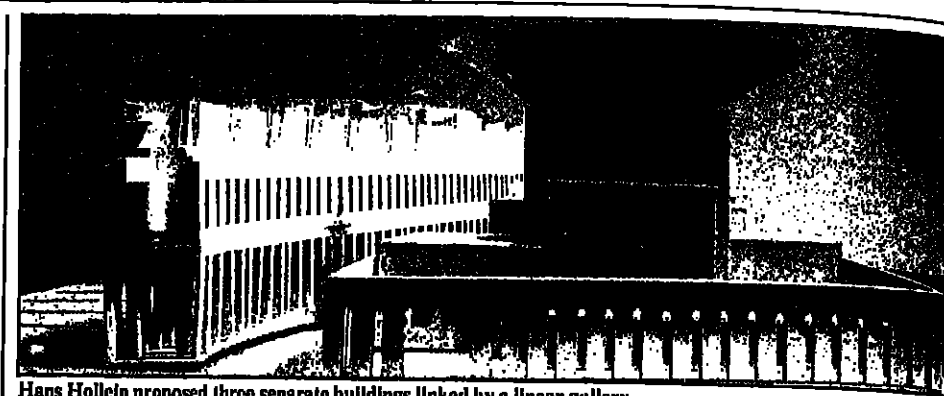
Coleman and Freeman clashed on more than one subject. Coleman's studies of flats and housing indicated that levels of crime and disorder were high in both turn-of-the-century and

60s and 70s housing, whilst terrace developments of a later war years produced no crime statistics may be improved, the demolition and lack of landmarks produced anonymous and disorienting breeding ground for psychiatric problems.

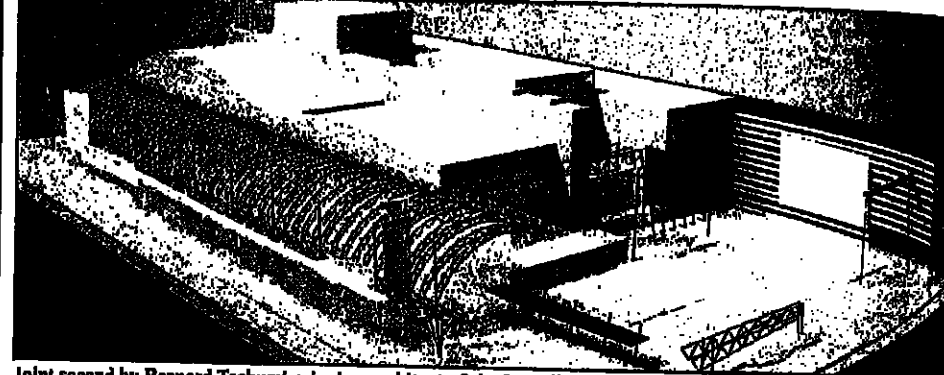
Flora Coombe

### RIBA strategy

A NEW RIBA members group under the leadership of David Rock and Fred Roche will be set up to examine the marketing architecture and devise a promotional strategy, the Institute's annual policy committee decided this week.



Hans Hollein proposed three separate buildings linked by a linear gallery.



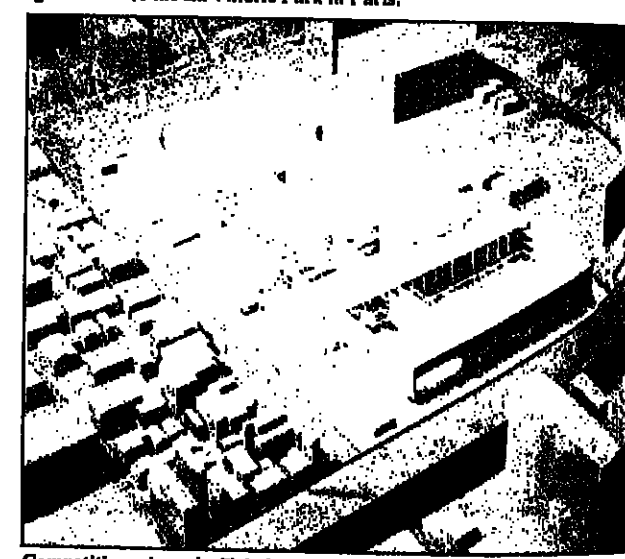
Joint second by Bernard Tschumi, winning architect of the La Villette Park in Paris.

### Eastern divide

The open international competition for the New National Theatre in Japan attracted 228 entries including 60 from 22 countries outside Japan.

Takahiko Yanagisawa, working with German architect Harald Delfmann, won first prize and the four second-placed schemes included Hans Hollein and Bernhard Tschumi.

Peter Eisenman's entry was among six "other outstanding entries". The judges, who included Arata Isozaki, praised the high standard of entries but noted the tendency of Japanese entries "to demonstrate a high degree of functional perfection and orderliness of form" and those from abroad "to be concerned first with originality and ideas".



Competition winner by Takahiko Yanagisawa.

## Ronan Point 'the worst'

ENGINEERS who have tested the structural integrity of more than 200 tower blocks with radar equipment said this week that Ronan Point was the worst building they had ever come across.

In tests carried out in 1984 they found voids in the drypack mortar of up to 50 per cent, as well as some deficiencies in the concrete. Both of these findings have been backed by the controlled demolition of Ronan Point being carried out by Newham council engineers.

The surveying team, GB Geotechnics, have been inundated with requests to test other local authority-owned tower blocks.

Other systems GB looked at include Reema, Biscan, and Wales. The Cambridge-based firm told BD that although it had found departures from original specifications, "we have never seen a tower block as badly built

as Ronan Point".

The notorious East London tower and its seven sister blocks on the Freemasons Estate were evacuated in 1984 following council fire tests which showed that fireproofing in the building would not halt the spread of smoke in the event of a fire.

GB's radar testing service, which has been upgraded since the tests on Ronan Point, can detect voiding in concrete, cracking in concrete, depth of concrete cover on the reinforcing steel bars, and the degree of corrosion of reinforcing.

A typical building would take only one day to survey at a cost of about £1,000.

Experts say this method of testing is only 90 per cent reliable but does give a good indication of the structure of the building very cheaply.

GB's service is proving so valuable to local authorities that

a spokesman for the firm claims has been approached by a number of local authorities in Britain to system-build blocks.

GB's expertise is also in demand overseas. Senior partner George Ballard is now surveying blocks in Hong Kong.

### Slow going in Wales

ONLY half of the Welsh planning applications made in the first quarter of this year were determined within the statutory eight weeks. A further 26 per cent took between eight and 10 weeks.

The statistics appeared in a report from the Welsh Office analysing the level and efficiency of development control in Wales.

# BUILDING DESIGN

No 806

The weekly newspaper for the design team

FRIDAY OCTOBER 3 1986

## Appeal over pier design

THAMES Water Authority is to appeal against Westminster council's decision to block plans for a £6 million leisure pier at Westminster.

The pier, designed by Clive Nicholson Associates, has been criticised by the council, the Royal Fine Art Commission, and English Heritage.

English Heritage said this week the new pier would "adversely affect the setting of Westminster Palace, Westminster Bridge, County Hall, St Stephen's Club building, Norman Shaw's Scotland Yard and Whitehall Court, all of which are listed buildings".

Thames Water said it intends to "stick with the original design".

A spokesman said the 110-year-old pier was not in "tip-top condition" and a substantial amount of money would need to be spent over the next 18 months if it was to remain safe.

Attempts to replace the pier have had an unhappy history in recent years, including a failed competition and an unsuccessful design by the GLC.

## Architects at Building 86

WORK by three young practices will be exhibited at an RIBA-sponsored session at the Building 86 exhibition on October 7 at Earl's Court.

Those featured will be Andrew Holmes, who teaches at the Architects Association, Jamie Troughton and John McAllen, who started their own practice three years ago after leaving Richard Rogers, and Mike Fletcher and Keith Priest, who have been together since 1979 and have a reputation for inventive low-budget schemes.

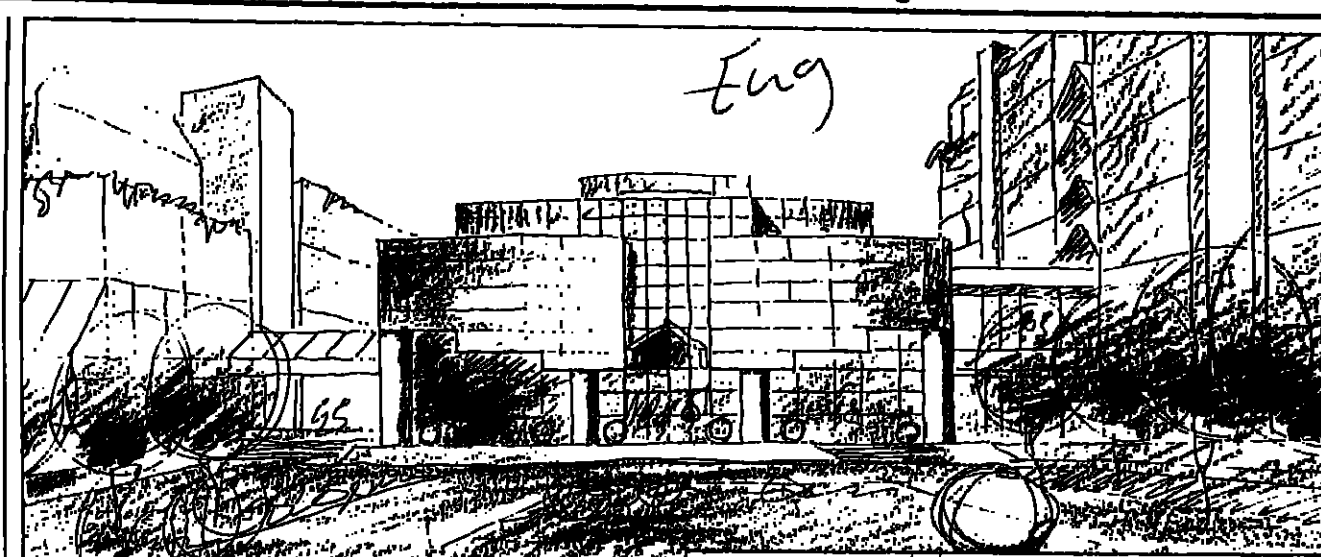
The exhibition opens at midday on Sunday, and continues until October 9.

## Aerosol explosion

AN aerosol can of lighter fluid exploded and knocked out a wooden end wall and two windows in a ground-floor flat in a three-storey block in Waltham Forest earlier this year, it has been revealed.

The explosion at 101/102 Down Way was about 3.5kN per sq m, and has led to renewed calls by tenants for strengthening of tower blocks in the borough.

See story back page



## BBC airs radio scheme

How the new BBC radio centre could look at London's White City (above)... and what the corporation's revamped Langham Place building could have looked like had Foster Associates' designs been accepted. The outline proposals for White City have been prepared by BBC architects and Norman & Dawbarn, and have been on public display. Foster's designs form part of the Royal Academy exhibition which opens today. BBC story back page



## RIBA welcomes plans for new education study

# SCHOOLS BACK IN THE FIRING LINE

ARCHITECTURAL education will once again come under critical scrutiny, following recommendations by the Building Economic Development Committee.

The committee (or "Neddy") is worried about the general standard of professional education in relation to construction, and has sought funding for a two-year study from the DoB and the Department of Education & Science, which are understood to be keen to help.

Because of the existing reports by Lord Esher and Her Majesty's Inspectorate, architecture finds itself in the front line of criticisms over education failures.

In a parting memorandum to the industry, the retiring chairman of the building neddy, Sir

**By BD Reporter**

Monty Finniston, quotes the HMI report on architectural education as evidence that not enough is being done to prepare professionals for major changes in the way the industry operates.

Sir Monty believed separation

in the training of professionals was too great, and an investigation should examine how this could be changed.

The idea of the study has been welcomed by the RIBA, which sits on the building neddy, and which is already conducting its own investigation into the future of architectural education.

Following an interim report next Easter, which should include the "structured" responses of schools and other representative groups, there will be more opportunities for comment, with a final report produced in early 1988.

The Institute knows that a review conducted for the building neddy could place architectural education within a wider context, and also comment on the advisability of multi-disciplinary education, for example.

The paragraph from the HMI report quoted in the Finniston memorandum says: "Students were forthright in their opinion that their future roles would be that of creative aesthetic designers with little need for a knowledge of technology... they... pass through the courses without acquiring, or being required to demon-

## Exhibition celebrates three of the best

THE biggest, most spectacular and most expensive exhibition of British architecture in the past 40 years opens to the public today (Friday) at the Royal Academy.

"New Architecture: Foster, Rogers, Stirling" celebrates the global stature of the three most recent British RIBA Gold Medalists and features three built and three unbuilt projects.

Norman Foster displays two superb models of the Hongkong Bank in suitably hi-tech media, with suspended ceiling screens and back-lit projections.

The centrepiece of the adjacent room is a huge model of the aborted £100 million project for BBC Radio with working drawings for licence payers to peruse.

Richard Rogers has set up the most dramatic display, a huge River Thames water tank that lends a visionary dimension to a series of radical projects, some old, some new. His "silver mile" establishes a new link between the South Bank — via a new pedestrian bridge replacing Hungerford Bridge — and Trafalgar Square.

James Stirling has transformed his rooms into a highly effective backdrop that features a 6-ton pavilion based on the Stuttgart Gallery. The second room contains a fully developed version of the National Gallery extension proposal.

The exhibition continues until December 21.

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SOUTH 86

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### Centre stage



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THE beneficial effects for London's prosperity arising from the "Big Bang" could be strangled — unless the capital's property market loosens up to accommodate exploding demand for new office space from both the Big Bang players and the supporting service industries.

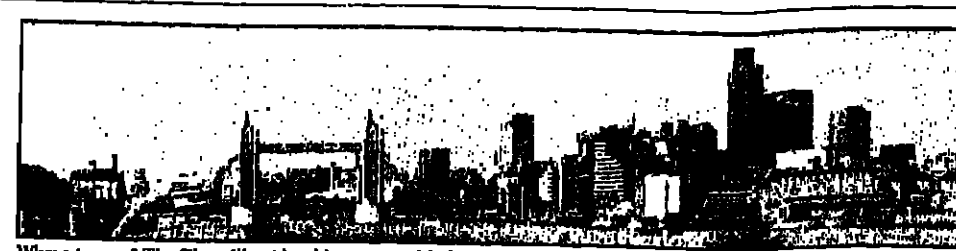
Research has revealed that demand for new office space could be much greater than most of the property market has hitherto anticipated. For up to one third of London's 140 million sq ft of offices may have to be torn down and redeveloped over the next five to 10 years in order to cope, according to estate agents Edward Erdman in their latest report on the City's property market.

Contrary to the relatively conservative forecasts of their colleagues in the City, Erdman forecast: "We may be entering a period of double our previous annual take-up, sustained for at least the next five years, if not longer." Current take-up is reckoned by most agents to be around the 3.5 million sq ft a year mark.

The City of London alone is not going to cope with this. If the full potential of Big Bang is to be realised, then the cities of London and Westminster, and the eight surrounding local planning authorities, are going to have to look long and hard at their planning policies.

As for the City itself, the corporation's revised draft local plan is coming under fire again from the property fraternity, which pressurised the City to amend it in their favour only a few months ago.

"By designating 28 per cent of the City's area (and nearly 90 per cent around the Bank itself) as



Where to now? The City will not be able to cope with the effects of the Big Bang alone.

## Containing the explosion

conservation areas, and by applying a difficult approach both to renewal and to satisfying the needs of occupiers, there is a definite chance that the central City area will become little more than an architectural museum piece of the 19th century," says Erdman.

Research from a new independent property organisation Applied Property Research with designer Fitch & Co (which has set up a division specifically aimed at office and hi-tech occupiers), highlights one sector where demand is likely to prove colossal — the Japanese.

The Japanese are one of the key players in what has been dubbed the post-Big Bang race. "Big Bang is dead as a property market issue, long live post-Big Bang," says Geoff Marsh of APR. It is dead, claims Marsh, because virtually everybody has taken their positions in the gilt and equities markets.

"The next wave of growth is the globalisation of investment banking. This brings us to the

Japanese. If the Japanese are going to have significant presence here, then there must be enormous growth in their property requirements."

APR/Fitch's research ranks foreign banks in London in terms of world size, and then alongside, charts the number of staff each bank now houses in London. American bank Citicorp, for example, employs well over 3,000 people here. Second in the world pecking order, Dai Ichi Kangyo, has a paltry three score. In rough terms, each person occupies between 150 and 200 sq ft of office space.

Clearly the Japanese have to expand rapidly: first to catch up with the operations of their American competitors, and secondly to expand beyond that as the new market place grows.

So far the Japanese have taken unglamorous second-hand space. But Nomura, the biggest Japanese securities house, recently decided to take the scheme which will replace the old Post Office building at St

As another firm of architects prepares for an Unlisted Securities Market quote, Lee Mallett reports on why central London architects are set for a bonanza.

Martins le Grand on the City's northern fringe. Nomura has said it wants a total of 1.25 million sq ft. This could well be the first ripple of the "Tsunami" — a Japanese tidal wave of demand.

Many in the property market remain convinced that the City cannot cope with demand. They see the accommodation of Big Bang increasingly as a London-wide problem. The relaxation of the City's draft plan was an effective piece of public relations, but the reality is that the time-lag inherent in site creation will prove a stumbling block to satisfying demand. In addition to this, relocation will create extra demand. Companies no longer just take the amount of space necessary to meet their immediate requirements — they take an extra 25 per cent to meet their medium-term future needs.

Even if the space is created, the signs are that the City will choke as a result. "Michael Cassidy (the chairman of the City Corporation planning committee) has seriously underestimated the infrastructure problems with the level of demand he anticipates. Quite a number of major property developments in the City involve the loss of car parks," says Marsh. The Broadgate office complex now stands on Liver-

pool Street station's former car park.

All this bodes well for Canary Wharf in London's Docklands — the 10 million sq ft scheme proposed by a consortium of American banks. Cautious and inscrutable they may well be, but the Japanese may be forced to ditch their more traditional inclinations and consider a trip to Docklands, along with other less hidebound operations.

The one thing that Docklands will be able to offer is what has been described as "critical mass" — a development of sufficient size to create its own financial community. That is if the banks can overcome their prejudices and move down there. As usual, no one wants to be first.

Beyond the banking fraternity, five "little bangs" will swell demand for London office space, says APR. Lawyers, the accountants, the building societies, commercial estate agents and the media and design industries are all directly inheritors of Big Bang's economic spin-offs.

Increasingly image-conscious, corporately competitive, and computer-driven, the largest of the professional partnerships — or more often today, companies — are all upgrading their headquarters. Even though many of them are growing fat on the back of Big Bang and corporate takeover hysteria, they are still being forced from their traditional City and mid-town haunts by rising City rents.

Even West End rents are moving beyond their reach, because the larger buildings are now regarded as bank fodder. Supply in both the City and the West End has all but dried up until after 1987. Edward Erdman identifies 35 schemes over 50,000 sq ft in the City, E1, the south bank and in Docklands, totalling more than 11 million sq ft which could start in 1987. This excludes Canary Wharf.

So the potential for supply to balance demand is there — but will planning policies get in the way?

## Sugar candy adventurer

Helmut Jahn presented a capacity audience with a procession of glass stumps on Tuesday night, writes Tim Ostler.

SHOULDERS padded like a Chicago Bears quarterback, Helmut Jahn presented his work for inspection to a packed Jarvis Hall on Tuesday night.

During one of the brief periods of intelligibility in a talk otherwise weighed down with jargon like so much tottering masonry, Jahn described his goal as to "bring back romance and adventure into architecture."

Unlike Philip Johnson, he believes in combining historical references with modern constructional methods. "Combining stone, glass and metal in a very thick skin," he said, "removes some of the Modernist bias against natural materials."

But, as the slides continued, the assembled throng saw Jahn become more and more detached from questions of detail, as in a procession of fancy dresses of steadily increasing improbability, one sculptured mirror-glass stump followed another. Chairman Charles Jencks described the blocks cheekily as "fast food" architecture, but perhaps "sugar candy" would be more appropriate. They tend to be eroded internally like so many rotten teeth, forming impressive gal-

lerias where the masses may be overawed and relieved of any dollars they may happen to be carrying at the time.

Jahn has, like Mies after he attempted to reach an accommodation with Hitler, had his share of political controversy, three of his buildings being built in South Africa.

One-eleven Diagonal Street, referring to its context in a rather fatuous manner by being designed in the shape of a diamond, is built on land from which small black businesses had been evicted. It sits slap bang in the centre of the most colourful commercial area in Johannesburg. Jahn, however, complained that "there was little or no context of the site".

Jahn's talk was peppered with references to, and criticism of, old-fashioned Modernism and of the legacy of Mies. But, when one young member of the audience asked politely how he could bring himself to work in South Africa, whose system he said was "infinitely more disastrous than the works of Mies van der Rohe", Jahn found himself taking a leaf, involuntarily, out of the master's book: "I'm an architect, not a politician," he declared.

## Torquay schemes under fire

TORBAY council is under fire from conservationists for listing four massive schemes its latest bid to develop a million retail centre in its town sector.

The four schemes, by Chapman Taylor Partners, Design Partnership, Dyer Associates, and Sheppard Robson all plan to demolish large parts of the Victorian and Georgian Swan Street/George Street sector.

Similar plans by developer John Laing and architect Bill Wootton were attacked earlier this year: local groups who produced a £12 million scheme to redevelop the area, restore many of the buildings and still provide a desired retail space.

After a long battle for the Laing failed to come up with financial backing for the scheme, and dropped out.

The council recently launched the competition, but locals are predicting trouble for the winning scheme, which should be announced by the end of the year.

## Silverman for Cardiff

RICHARD Silverman of Alec French Partnership has been appointed head of a school of architecture at a University of Wales, Cardiff. His appointment follows the retirement of Professor John Eynon.

Silverman, who taught at Bristol University until its closure in 1983, was a recently a member of the CNA Architecture Board and also the Science and Engineering Research Council building committee.

## Battle for presidency

from page 1

many as a "grey" man. But it is believed that factions in the institute are so desperate for Hackney not to take it over, that they have convinced a "very important" member to stand against him.

This would have the dual effect of rejecting not only Hackney, but also Andrews, Council nomination for president.

One senior member of Council this week confirmed that he had given his support to a third party "who was considering standing in the election. He would not say who it was."

Hackney is also contesting the presidency of the International Union of Architects. He has challenged the RIBA's nomination, Owen Luder, and informed sources at the RIBA are suggesting that he would rather be a head of an international organisation than the RIBA.

## Divis flats to be demolished

THE rumoured demolition of the Divis Flats complex in Belfast has been confirmed by the Northern Ireland Housing Executive.

Figures released by the board put the cost of refurbishment at £18.8 million, with demolition costing £13 million.

All the low-rise blocks will be removed, but the 19-storey tower block at the centre of the estate will be retained.

# Massive Crawley 'neighbourhood' draws local fury

A MASSIVE new "neighbourhood" planned for Crawley in East Sussex has drawn a storm of protest from angry local residents.

The development — known as Maidenbower — is for 3,750 homes plus schools and shops. It is being proposed by a consortium of Bryant Homes, Taylor Woodrow Homes and Wimpey Homes.

The consortium plans to buy the 150ha site from local farmers. The land has been singled out for large-scale development in the alterations to the Sussex County Council structure plan.

But the structure plan still needs to be formally approved by the secretary of state. A decision on the first draft is expected this month.

A planning officer from the county council said there had been "a number of environmental objections to the Maidenbower development, predominantly the loss of landscape to the south-east of Crawley and the loss of agricultural land". The land is not green belt.

The structure plan does not make any specific reference to the size of the development, although it envisages around 2,500 homes by 1996. The assumption is that if Maidenbower were to increase in size adjoining land would have to be

bought by the consortium. With the proposed closing of the green belt to housebuilders, following the appointment of William Waldegrave as the Government's "green" minister, Crawley residents fear that Nicholas Ridley will back the Maidenbower scheme.

By Amanda Baililleu

But the consortium has been accused of not providing adequate road improvements, which local residents have been told will "follow later".

There are also complaints that locals have not had time for adequate appraisal, informed comment or effective opposition. A public exhibition was criticised for being too short — it rained for 11 days — and providing minimal detail.

One architect resident told BD that there had only been time for one local meeting, chaired by the local rector, which was attended by "350 very angry locals".

A spokesman for the consortium admitted there had been "a fair bit of local opposition", but said: "Things must get worse before they get better."

He said Maidenbower was desperately in need of more housing.

## Insurance worries over prc repairs

DISCUSSIONS are taking place on the possible abandoning of the insurance element of the Government's scheme to repair precast reinforced concrete homes, sold under right to buy legislation.

This is because the company behind the scheme, AA Mutual Insurance, has recently seen its South African parent company fail.

Although the UK subsidiary remains solvent, the public interest and political sensitivity surrounding the prc scheme has made both the DoE, which produced the Housing Defects Act to protect purchasers, and the National House-Building Council, which reluctantly agreed to administer the scheme, think about eventualities.

One of the problems is that the AAHI rates, described by NHBC as "the only sensible quote we got", were very low, at just over £300 per house.

This was probably because the company was just entering the UK market and prepared to take on the prc scheme as a prominent loss-leader. All efforts to get quotes approaching these rates from other insurers have since failed.

The NHBC is so worried

about the repercussions of a possible AAMI collapse that it is now insisting on DoE guarantees that prc buyers would be protected in the event of the company going bust.

Another alternative, that NHBC should take over the insurance itself (it is an insurance company in its own right, but only operates as such in the case of new homes under its 10-year warranty), has also been considered.

But again the NHBC would only be prepared to do this if the Government were prepared to protect it by guarantee against "exceptional losses".

The third alternative would be to dispense with insurance cover altogether, relying instead on the strict control of pre-repair schemes and the professional liability and indemnity policies of the professionals — mainly consulting engineers — who have had repair schemes approved.

The main problem with this simple-sounding solution is building society insistence on insurance cover: before they will advance mortgages on prc homes repaired under the NHBC scheme.

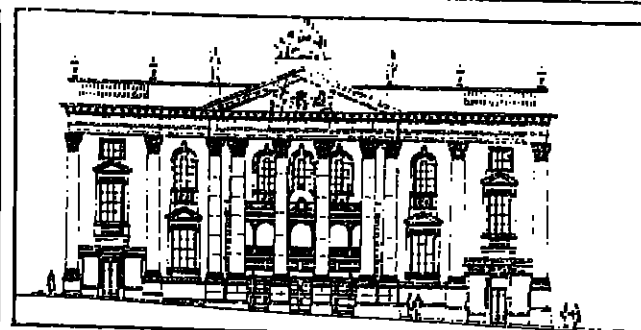
## Georgians attack Crown

GEORGIAN Group supporters have attacked the Crown Estate over its development proposals for Smirke's Royal Mint building on the edge of the City.

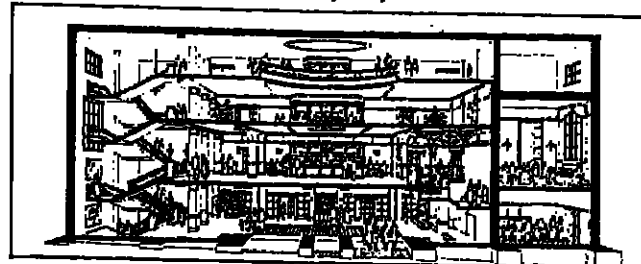
Plans to gut two-thirds of the building to create open-plan offices are described as "appalling" in the group's latest newsletter.

"It describes the proposals as being motivated by 'crude commercial considerations'."

The scheme has been endorsed by Tower Hamlets council and English Heritage.



Elevation facing Grey Street, to be completely restored.



Perspective section of main public areas behind the principal facade.

## EEC cash boosts theatre

A £3.4 million grant from the European Community's Regional Development Fund just announced, gives added impetus to renovation of the Theatre Royal, Newcastle. Work began last May under a Reviv Management Contract to designs by Renton Howard Wood Lewis, who were responsible for the restoration of the listed Grade II (starred) building, enlargement of the public spaces and complete renewal of the backstage accommodation. Work is expected to be complete late next year. Engineers are Ove Arup & Partners, quantity surveyors Gleds (Nottingham).

## Functional approach to bridge at Dartford

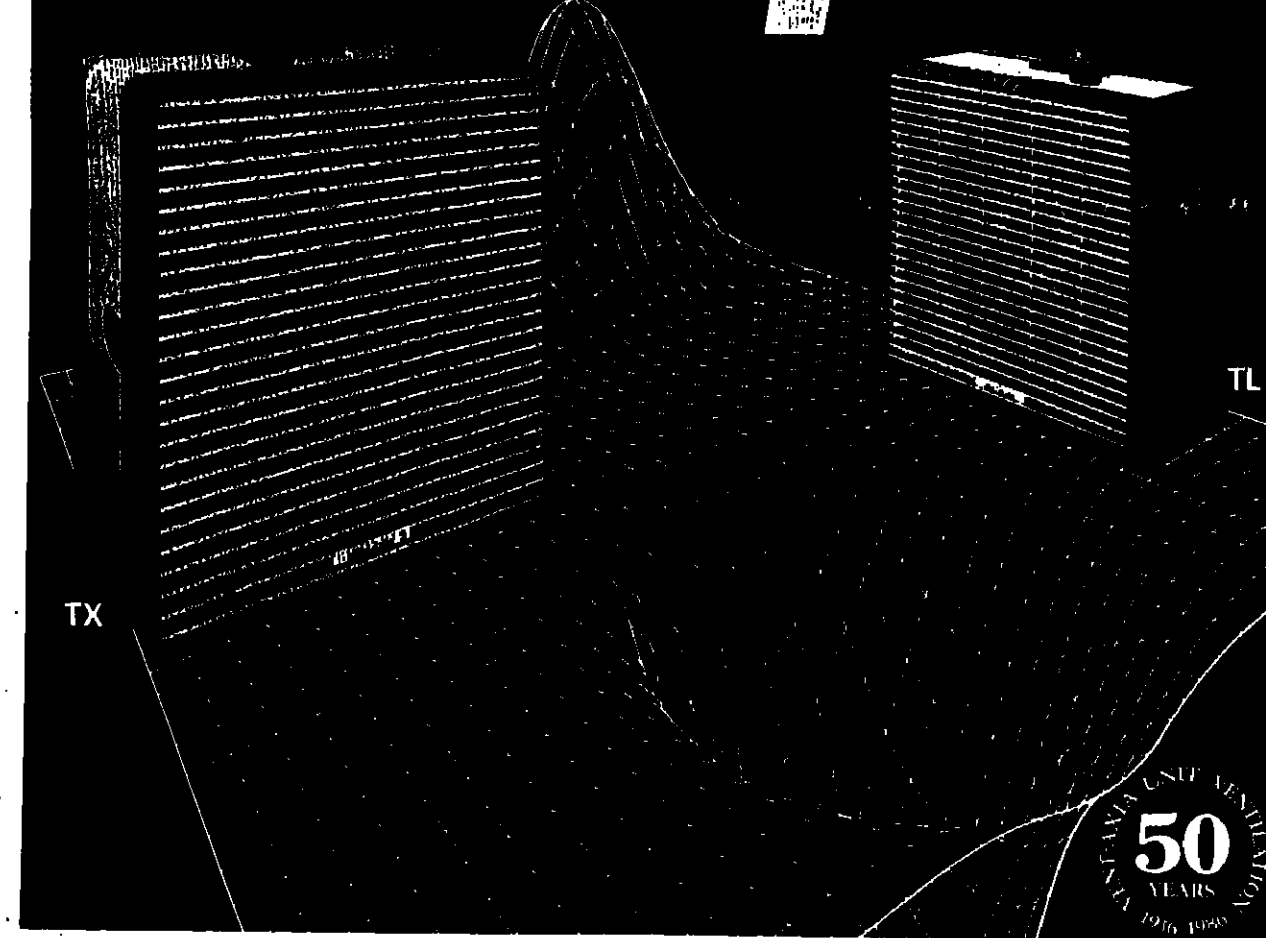
THE £86 million Thames bridge at Dartford announced this week is unlikely to produce much work for architects.

A spokesman for private sector contractor Trafalgar House said it had been designed to be strictly functional rather than aesthetic, although the Royal Fine Art Commission had approved the plan.

The bridge would be predominantly a civil engineering project, although architects might be used to fine-tune the design. It will ease pressure on the twin Dartford tunnels, overloaded by M25 traffic.

Fears that the £86 million involved would be counted as part of the public sector borrowing requirement, although it is privately financed, were discounted by a Department of Transport spokesman.

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# Church put in the dock over demolition scheme

A PUBLIC inquiry into rival plans for the future of St Alban's Church, Tottenham, opens this week.

The church was designed by William Niven and built 1886-89.

After it was made redundant in 1977 the Church Commissioners, on the advice of the London Diocesan Fund, made a draft redundancy scheme for its demolition.

This was against the advice of the Advisory Board for Redundant Churches.

The case has become an ecclesiastical cause celebre — this

is the first time a non-statutory public inquiry has been held into a redundant church in London.

A separate statutory inquiry into the failure of the London Diocesan Fund to obtain planning permission from the local council will be heard at the same time.

The public inquiry was originally scheduled for January this year, but was postponed by the DoE to allow the London Diocesan Fund time to explore the possibility of converting the church for residential use.

Meanwhile, Save and the Victorian Society submitted a scheme by architects Purcell,

Miller, Tritton & Partners.

This completes the west end of the church, and involves construction of a new church hall, a new mixed residential

development including 18 sheltered ground-floor flats and 18 maisonettes arranged in a "cathedral close"-like form to the west of the listed building.

John Tilley Associates, architects acting for the London Diocesan Fund, have produced a rival scheme allowing for the subdivision of the church into 51 flat units, plus 52 new retirement homes in a large five-storey u-shaped block linked to the unfinished western end of

the listed building. English Heritage called the scheme "disappointing". It said the proposed u-shaped block was similar to an office proposal turned down by the GLC.

It did, however, approve the scheme by Save and the Victorian Society. Richmond council refused the London Diocesan Fund planning permission, but approved the scheme by Save and the Victorian Society.

This is the second time this month that the London Diocesan Fund has been in court over a planning application for one of its churches.

Plans to turn St Marks, North Audley Street, into an American style hamburger restaurant were refused.

## Rolland speaks out over privatisation of services

RIBA president Larry Rolland has called on the Government to drop any proposals to privatise services provided by local authority architects.

Speaking at the Society of Chief Architects of Local Authorities annual conference, he praised the service provided by in-house architects and said: "The RIBA believes that excessive equal privatisation in this area could in fact make it extremely difficult for authorities to achieve the kind of efficiency of estate management and environmental benefits for which the public is now calling."

Rolland said it would be a mistake to assume that because the new build programmes are reduced, the importance of a strong in-house architectural presence is diminished.

"Sustained and co-ordinated administration is necessary in order that the most economic and environmentally attractive solutions emerge," he said.

## New Bath study scheme

BATH city planning department and architects Paul Richards Associates are members of a team set up to run a new environmental study scheme.

The course, at Beechen Cliff School in Bath, will explain how land is developed and how buildings are designed and constructed.

The pupils will design projects for a site at the school and present them to a panel of local councillors and other professionals in April.

The Huntington Centre, a Bath architectural appreciation group, has organised the course,

which forms part of the new certificate of pre-vocational education syllabus.

## Labour housing initiative

LABOUR leaders are being urged to implement a massive housing and construction programme if it wins the next election.

The Labour Housing Group has launched its programme to combat seven years of Tory rule and to combat the massive

backlog of housebuilding and renovation.

The main points in the programme are:

- construction of one million new homes and the renovation of 4.5 million existing dwellings;
- expansion of the building industry in a 10-year programme of housebuilding and improvement;
- improving existing local authority direct labour organisations and setting up a new National Building Corporation;
- protection of the green belt as a public recreational resource;

● compulsory purchase of inner-city land for housing.

Local authorities are being urged to prepare land and designs to allow work to proceed immediately after a Labour victory at the polls.

## Man in mind

HEAD of the metropolitan planning unit in Belgrade, Dr Milos Perovic, will give a talk entitled "With Man in Mind" at the RIBA on Tuesday, October 7, at 6.15pm. His talk accompanies an exhibition on the second-floor gallery.



## Refurb for listed houses

Work has just finished on Central & City Properties' £750,000 restoration of 17/19 Alle Street in London's East End. With architects C A Corda Associates they have added a basement and produced 270sq m of offices retaining many original features in the pair of listed 18th century houses.

## Row over council's loan to developer

A £2.5 MILLION Devon leisure complex has won planning permission — from a council which lent a developer £1,320 to apply for it.

Former mayor of Tiverton Jack Harris said the council could not consider the scheme, which is designed by MWT Architects, without bias after it had become so involved with it financially.

The scheme was passed by just seven votes to five by mid-Devon council's planning committee.

The plan, brainchild of local businessman Michael Moyse, is for 10 tennis courts, a six-rink indoor bowls centre, squash and badminton courts, snooker rooms, and a sports shop.

Moyse also plans a 52-bed-room hotel with conference facilities for the site in Bolham Road.

But the council's decision to lend Moyse the fee for submitting the planning application has led to doubts about its future funding.

A leading planner with mid-Devon said it was unusual for the council to operate in this way and that it was "distinctly odd" for the council to lend money for a planning application.

## New faces at DoE

FOLLOWING the Cabinet reshuffle, DoE ministers have now been given their departmental responsibilities.

There are two new ministers. Dr Rhodes Boyson becomes minister for local government with special responsibility for all local government topics. Lord Skelmersdale becomes spokesman in the House of Lords.

Other DoE posts are: secretary of state, Nicholas Ridley; environment, countryside and planning is covered by William Waldegrave; housing urban affairs and construction, John Patten. Parliamentary under-secretaries are Christopher Chope and Richard Tracey.

# Government looks set to retreat on fee scales

A MAJOR Government about-turn over fee scales could be on the cards in Scotland — If secret negotiations with the Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland are successful.

At least one major public body, the Scottish Development Agency, has said it is keen to replace the present system of competitive fee tendering for contracts with a fixed fee scale.

RIAS is keen to reintroduce fee scales and had a meeting this week with SDA negotiators.

RIAS secretary Charles McKean said there were reserva-

tions about the fee scale proposed and conditions attached.

He said low payments were the problem. "We want to give value for money, but you only get what you pay for," he said.

He was confident that a deal could be worked out and agreed on by the end of the year.

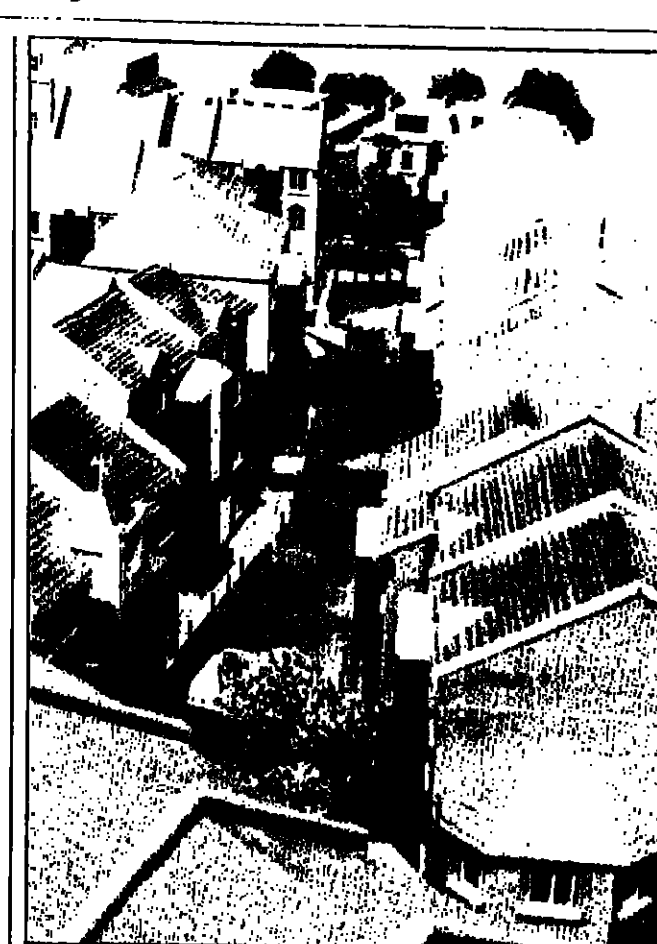
If the SDA does reintroduce a fee scale, it could prompt other government agencies to do likewise.

McKean said this was the first time since the 1981 fee scale relaxation that a government body had argued in favour of a scale.

After the 1981 relaxation, most government bodies, including the Property Services Agency, opted for competitive fee tendering.

● Glasgow council housing department has pushed through a package of cuts in fees for grant funded housing repair projects.

The council has issued a revised fee document stating it



## Office village

This £20 million "office village" development, designed by Graham Moss Associates, has won planning permission from the local council.

The architects hope their scheme will encourage other similar developments in the area, which is only 1½ miles from the City of London.

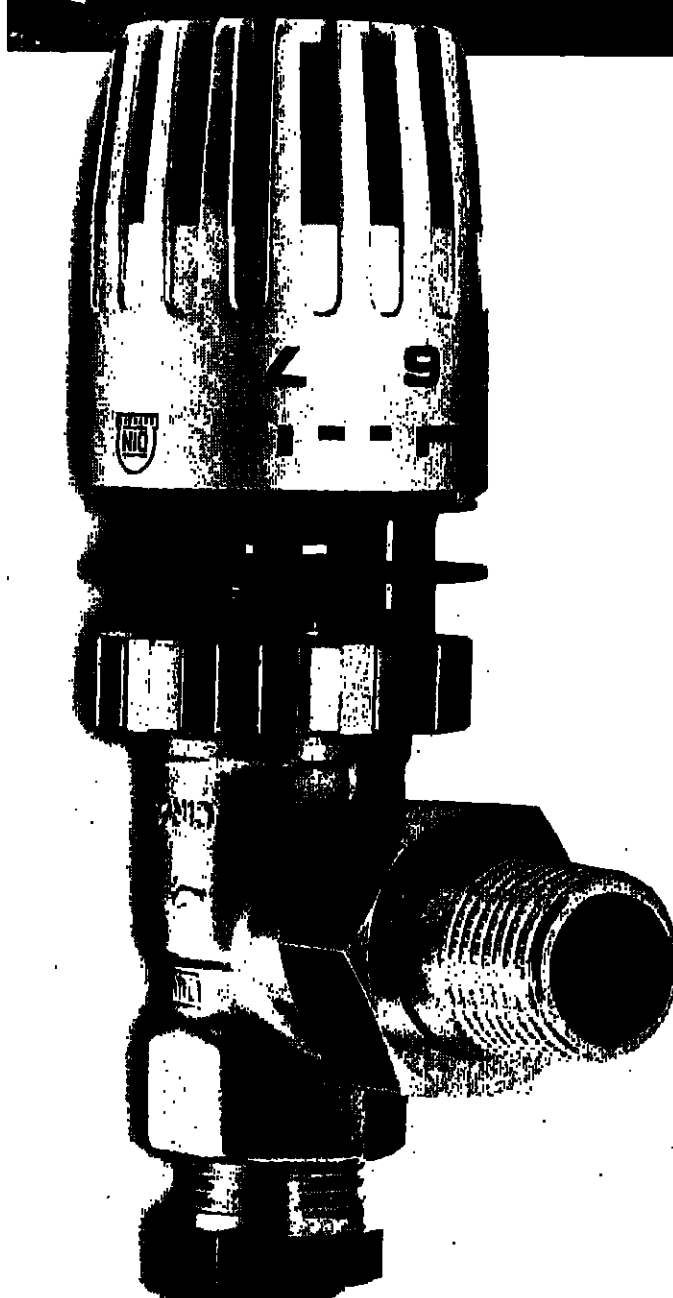
The village-like atmosphere is created by arranging a cluster of units — designed as cottages or terrace-type buildings — in a landscaped setting.

Demolition of 330-336 City Road begins this month and the first phase of the project, involving substantial renovation of part of the buildings, will begin next January.

## Historic volume

THE Construction History Society has published the second volume of its journal, *Construction History*. Edited by Mark Swenarton and backed by the Chartered Institute of Building, the illustrated volume includes articles on early carpenters' manuals, labour relations, and a history of Sir Robert McAlpine.

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## Barratt woos yuppies

Volume housebuilder Barratt is making a concerted attack on the growing South-east London yuppie market with a new development in 1.5isham. Architects Lawrence & Wrightson have designed 152 new homes at "Merridale Gardens" particularly aimed at singles and young couples and ranging in price from £35,000 to £55,000. The 1.6 ha development was formerly a redundant factory site, but has been transformed by the £7 million building programme which commenced in summer 1985 and is due for completion in 1987. All the homes on the site have been sold months ahead of completion.

Funny things happen on the way to the

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## Fighting vicar wins campaign

COUNCIL officials in Oxford have red faces after a DoE enquiry team overturned a planning refusal for a vicarage and took the unusual step of awarding costs against the council.

Reverend Martin Flatman, who had been campaigning to build a vicarage on land near Bartlemas Cottage, Cowley Road, said the award implied that council officers had been "bloody-minded" and had given wrong advice.

It was wrong that local rate-payers would have to pay the bill for the council's legal costs and architects' fees.

Oxford City Council refused planning permission for the vicarage on the grounds that Bartlemas was one of the few remaining rural areas of Oxford.

It lost after two appeals and the vicarage is due to start on site next year.

## Top of the ILEA class

THE London Institute's Design Show opens at the Royal Festival Hall on October 7 and will run until October 25.

Staged by the Inner London Education Authority, it is part of the "Class of '86" series of exhibitions promoting the work of the London Institute.

## Planners reject Nuffield reforms

THE Nuffield report on town and country planning, which recommends major reforms, has been greeted with scepticism by the Royal Town Planning Institute.

Institute president George McDonic said: "The Nuffield call for explicit and systematic statements from central government on major national policy matters is fully justified. But I doubt whether an annual White Paper should be the medium for promoting them."

He also questioned proposals that the environment secretary should only call in planning proposals which affect national policy or disputes between authorities.

"There are other circumstances when a call in is necessary," he said. "For example, where the authority has a vested interest in one of a number of different proposals."

# Leeds backs plan for shop complex at Corn Exchange

LEEDS council has approved plans by Alsop Barnett & Lyall and the John Brunton Partnership to turn the city's historic Grade I-listed Corn Exchange into a shopping centre.

A meeting this week approved a reworked scheme for the 1860s Cuthbert Brodbeck building and will recommend the architects to put in for planning permission. The £1.5 million scheme, next to the £60 million redevelopment proposed for Kirkstall market, could give up to 2,000sq m of retail space on a prestigious central site.

Although the Corn Exchange is largely disused and in need of repair, any development of the site will have to be referred to English Heritage for listed building consent.

Local conservation groups are monitoring possible changes to the building.

There is particular concern about a previous scheme by Alsop Barnett & Lyall's developer, Mount Provincial, which gave access to the base-

ment through a large central hole in the middle of the ground floor.

John Lyall, who initiated the scheme to refurbish the Corn

By Alan Thompson

Exchange three years ago, told BD: "We are well aware that the building is listed and no way are we going to vandalise such a masterpiece."

Lyall envisages a Covent Garden-type market for the building. He confirmed that the basement had to be put into use to make the development viable, but said that access was now

planned in a more sympathetic way.

He had had discussions with English Heritage's planners, many of whom had been involved in the regeneration of Covent Garden in the 1970s, and their advice was "very helpful".

The architectural team also has Patrick Nuttgens as an advisor.

Lyall and his team will now be hard at work until the end of the year drawing up the scheme for planning permission.

"What we want now from everyone, no matter what camp they are in, is enthusiasm for a scheme to find a new use for the Corn Exchange," he said.



The harbours of Seville

Emilio Ambasz has won the international invited competition plan for the 1992 Universal Exhibition in Seville, sister city of London. The plan, which will be set in the middle of the city, is a measure that will cut the cost of expensive land-based theme of the exhibition is "Era of Discovery" and it celebrates the anniversary of Columbus' discovery of America. After the exhibition becomes a public park, with part being taken over by the city.

## Campaign attacks shire plan

A MAJOR government reform to streamline the planning system in the shire counties has been slammed by the Campaign for the Countryside (CPRE).

Environment secretary Nicholas Ridley outlined the proposals to abolish strategic land use planning at the Royal Town Planning Institute's summer school held in Nottingham this month.

CPRE chairman David Astor warned that "removing proper strategic plans would create so much uncertainty that urban-type developments would inevitably spill out haphazardly over the countryside".

## Snozzi talk

LUIGI Snozzi will give an illustrated talk on his work on Thursday at 6.30pm at the Courtauld Institute, Portman Square, London W1. An exhibition of his work continues at the 9H Gallery until Friday.



Environmental award

Rotherham council has given an environmental award to the John Brunton Partnership for their Cascades Shopping Centre in the town (pictured). The award will be presented next week. The judging panel praised the design for providing a useful public amenity while enhancing the built environment.

# 'Neddy' to back quality assurance for designers

THE Building "Neddy" is to back the development of quality assurance schemes for the design professions involved in the construction industry.

The move follows the meeting last week of the Building Economic Development Committee (Neddy).

This discussed a paper by Malcolm Taylor of Building Design Partnership.

Taylor warned that unless design professionals developed their own "QA packages", they could be overtaken by design/build companies prepared to guarantee the whole of a job rather than individual elements.

Although "quality assurance" is not a guarantee of excellence but a guarantee that products will meet stated specifications, Taylor's paper forecast increased demand for QA from clients who saw buildings as manufactured objects.

He believed a single agency should stimulate and guide

By BD Reporter

individual design professions, undertaking their own quality schemes, within an overall framework.

The RIBA, although claiming to be the lead design profession, had shown no inclination to take on this watching role.

A new British Standard on QA relating to the design professions should be prepared, inspection aspects of QA could be treated in the same way as Building Regulations, and the question of value for money should be examined.

Taylor said that so far the engineering professions had made the most progress, architects and quantity surveyors the least.

Now representatives of the professions will meet under the auspices of the Construction Industry Research Association to decide on how to make progress.

● Faulty building products are costing the country £10 million a year, claims the British Board of Agreement in its latest annual report.

## Massive demolition proposal allowed

MASSIVE facadism is to be allowed in Colmore Row, Birmingham, where Barclays Bank is to tear down Victorian offices in five adjoining buildings and replace them with 100,000sq ft of office space on six floors behind the retained facades at a cost of £15m.

The government inspector who conducted a public inquiry into Peter Hing & Jones's scheme, supported the views of local conservationists that changes to the roofs of the listed buildings and the almost total demolition of the interiors would radically affect their special architectural and historic character.

He said there was no convincing evidence to suggest that there was such an acute shortage of accommodation or suitable sites for offices as to warrant the demolition of listed buildings.

"But the buildings are clearly unsuited to modern banking needs and the proposals would provide modern offices of a high standard in one of the most important locations within the principal banking area of the city," he concluded.

The development would also provide considerable employment in the building industry.

## Change Regs call

LOCAL authority architects and private housebuilders want higher standards of thermal insulation in the Building Regulations according to Eurisol, the UK Mineral Wool Association.

A survey of builders and architects carried out by the association revealed that 73 per cent of the housebuilders and 60 per cent of the architects are in favour of a change in the Regulations for thermal insulation.

A majority in both groups also said that the maximum permitted U-value of 0.6 for walls should be lowered to give better insulation qualities.

## Last-minute decision saves embarrassment

SALFORD council has been saved from breaking the law by a government edict which came in the nick of time.

City town planners were prepared to defy the law and demolish the listed Ordsall Primary School in Salford because they said the building, which closed last year because of

falling rolls, was dangerous.

But environment secretary Nicholas Ridley saved Salford council from the discreditable charge of destroying a listed building without consent by rushing through listed building consent this month.

The first stages of demolition have already taken place.

## Planning advice

TWO new publications from the Town & Country Planning Association should prove useful to groups interested in community and neighbourhood planning.

How to start a community project and its plus them are advice booklets based on the community approach to planning. They cover a complete range of case studies of successful projects and local improvements to the environment. Both publications are available from the Planning Bookshop, TCPA, 17 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1 5AS.

## Coventry architect dies

ARCHITECT Charles Scott de la Mare, senior partner with Hellberg Harris of Coventry, died recently at his home in Leamington Spa after a 10-week illness.

He joined Hellberg Harris in 1950 as a junior assistant. During his 36 years there the firm designed many of Coventry's landmarks, including the Owen Owen department store. He was half-way through his presidential term of office with the West Midlands branch of the RIBA and had been active in the Coventry Rotary and Round Table clubs.

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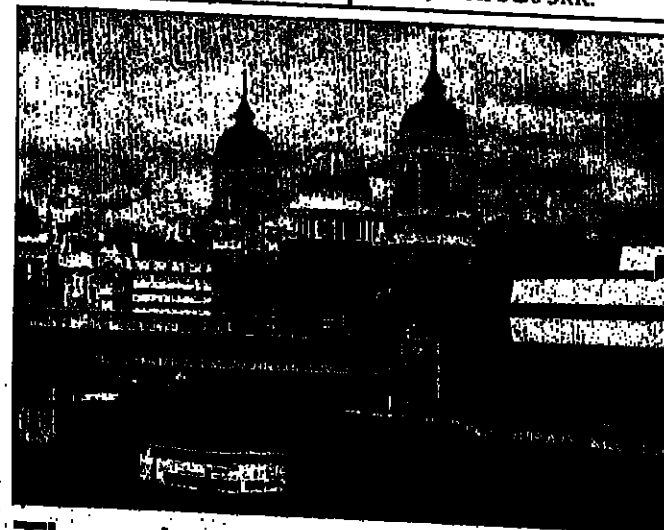
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## The gleaming towers

THE £260,000 restoration of Cannon Street Station's twin towers (either side of St Paul's in picture) was completed last week when environment secretary Nicholas Ridley unveiled a commemorative plaque. The towers are the only remains from the original 1866 station and are among 32 conservation projects undertaken by the Railway Heritage Trust in its first year.



# More control on defects

From John Newlove

I HAVE suggested (in your columns and through published papers) that clerks of works should be empowered to issue instructions to contractors to remove, say within seven days, any work which is not in accordance with the contract.

I cannot imagine any reason why this would be "a dangerous precedent", or why it should be said to presume that the clerk of works is better qualified, presumably in general terms, than other members of the building team, as Holmes states in his letter to you (September 26).

In fact, my suggestion presumes only this:

- That the clerk of works is able to understand the contract requirements from the information provided to him.
- That it is physically possible for him to inspect the work.
- That he is able to make a comparison between the work specified and the work produced, and can form a judgment as to whether the work produced is in accordance with the contract.

JCT 80 is weak in respect of provisions for the control of work which is not in accordance with the contract, and clause 12 needs to be strengthened. Clause 10 also needs attention.

Contract needs are as follows,

with regard to supervision by the contractor:

- For a competent site-agent/general foreman to manage and control the works effectively on site.

- For an agent of the contractor to be constantly available to receive directions and instructions.

- For such additional supervisors as may reasonably be necessary to maintain adequate control of progress in all trades and to achieve the standards of quality required by the contract.

It would not be unreasonable, in these days of educational opportunity, to require the employment of a certificated foreman.

Clause 10 of JCT 80 does not meet these three requirements and is therefore inadequate to some degree. It provides only for a "competent person-in-charge" to be kept constantly up on the works to receive instructions and directions. Large organisations and public bodies might be well advised to take legal advice with a view to supplementing these provisions, particularly where very large or very long-running projects are concerned.

Defects are often left outstanding for far too long, sometimes for months or years, usually to the detriment of the building owner and occasionally to the

detriment of the contractor as well. As a consequence, both architects and contractors may face damaging negligence claims long after the event.

Implementation of my suggestion would bring the situation under control, because the immediate issue of an instruction would draw the attention of the contractor to the fact that he may have a problem.

John Newlove  
Hullfax

## Helping hand withdrawn

From Stephen Mullin  
NOW that Roger White has admitted (September 19) that the Georgian Group has been pinging for the scruffier end of the Mickey Mouse trade, those of us who have spent freely of our time and energy in the past on its behalf under the mistaken impression that its primary objective was the preservation

of buildings of quality will think twice when we are once again asked to "lend a hand". The masturbatory antics of the "art historians" have not, so far, significantly affected the work of the Ancient Monuments Society and the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings. And, since both these statutory advisory bodies cover, between them, all the buildings with which the Georgian Group is nominally concerned, I'll be damned if I'll give the group a minute more of my time.

Stephen Mullin  
London WC1

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Stephen Mullin  
London WC1

## Misquoting the Jesuits

From Rachel Scott  
"GIVE me a child when he's seven and I'll have him for life" (Scorpio September 19) is not what the Jesuits are said to believe. It is quite the opposite.

Well in advance of Freud,

they held the view that a person's beliefs, hopes, fears and personal morality or the lack of it were formed in early childhood.

"Give me a child until he's seven and he's mine for life..." Rachel Scott  
London SW4

## The picture tells the story

From Christopher Carter  
THE William and Mary Garden at Stoke, so well illustrated in Tony Aldous' article (September 19) was wrongly attributed. It was designed solely by Colvin & Moggridge in the persons of Kate Richards and myself.

Robert Holden obviously didn't like it, but then he seems never to like anything by any of his fellow-professionals, and appears to lack Cedric Price's capacity for good-humoured enjoyment.

As to the "flat orangery facade", your readers may judge

for themselves from the excellent photograph. The match on an extremely limiting budget was six telegraph poles, vanged from the site, and wood.

Design began 15 months before opening, and construction (which had to wait for sponsorship) in October 1974 which has a lot to do with troublesome trees, but is another story.

Christopher Carter  
Lechlade  
Glos

## Pretentious review

From John Lambie  
FURTHER to John McKean's extremely pretentious review of the work of students at NEI (September 19), tutored friends of his... "What a lot of old Pollocks." John Lambie  
London N16

# Fighting for the reigns on the planning bandwagon

Lively debate on who should control design was a feature of the Town & Country Planning Summer School, held this year at Nottingham University. Peter Weatherhead reports.

ENVIRONMENT secretary Nicholas Ridley chose Nottingham to launch a consultation paper proposing the abolition of county structure plans — leaving district councils as the sole statutory plan-making authorities.

This, he argued, would produce a stronger and more effective planning system by removing a layer of bureaucracy and bringing the shires into line with the former metropolitan county areas. In place of structure plans he proposed strategic regional guidance which would be produced through voluntary joint working of the counties and his department. Additionally, counties would produce non-statutory policy statements on major land-use issues such as strategic highways, minerals, waste disposal and the provision of land for housing and major retail and industrial development. To many delegates it seemed a confusing and odd way to cut bureaucracy.

Royal Town Planning Institute president, George McDonic, thought the secretary of

state "might have a lot to understand about planning" and foresaw a reversion to the pre-war planning scene in which little was done to reconcile the confusing policies of differing councils.

Ridley also reminded planners of his thoughts on design control which he delivered at the RIBA conference, stating: "It is a risky course for planners and planning committees to arbitrate on matters of design." He acknowledged that his shadow minister, John Cunningham, seemed to believe the opposite.

McDonic, opening the summer school, exhorted delegates that "it is of fundamental importance that planners retain the right to have control over architectural design" and this is a matter which they "should be prepared to stand up and fight for". Planners, he added, reflected the opinions of lay people which the system serves. He criticised the lack of national and regional policies, adding "no longer can we go forward with our planning system based on criteria related to market-place demands". Major public inquiry proceed-

ings discredited planning and should be replaced by a staged process which looked at need and evaluated alternative locations before considering the detailed siting and design of a specific proposal.

McDonic's other reforms included eradicating procedural delays in development plan approval — "a national disgrace" — for which he blamed the DoE, and wider use of environmental impact assessments for major and controversial proposals. He also believes that the way local authorities permit their own developments should be scrapped because public confidence in it "is at an all-time low" and that independent inspectors should take the decisions.

Architect and planning consultant, Terence O'Rourke argued that the pendulum had swung too far towards the preservation of the status quo for the sake of the nation's economic health, with innovation being shunned. Conservation had become dominated by "the red guards of the preservation movement" and it was time that they were stopped.

This generation was the first history to hold such dangerous views, he claimed, and a mark change of attitude was needed.

New development was usually in pastiche pseudo-vernacular style which O'Rourke tagged "ignorant, banal and utterly meaningless". Planners were blamed for taking the safe option and falling over in the face of those who shouted the loudest.

There had to be change to inspire recovery, for only purity could pay for sensible conservation.

Needless to say, Gavin Stamp, who had a sideshow promoting the Thirties Society, did not agree and fearlessly rejected the argument that planning fostered architectural creativity. There was ample scope for innovation, he said, and illustrated a wide selection of the types of buildings which he wanted preserved.

Jan Davison, former managing director of Salvesen Homes (West Midlands), criticised developers for relegating housing design to a packaging exercise in a similar way to the presentation of cornflakes. There had been significant improvements in housing since layout over recent years, he argued, but the planning system offered no commercial incentive to the few developers who were prepared to meet the cost of achieving high design standards.

Design too was a consideration in the changed planning system advocated by Jim Angus, former Liverpool city planning officer and Birmingham city executive, now an academic. In his development control scheme performance standards would replace land-use classification to give more variety in urban development. But these standards would assess environmental impact through design, traffic generation, noise and pollution.

Insensitive design worried Jonathan Porritt, director of Friends of the Earth, who urged a green approach to development. He condemned the sterile way in which buildings and landscape were often designed and said that better ecological concern was needed.

# Change of tack for Kingston

From Glyn Banks

UNDER the heading "Young blood flows out" Scorpio (August 1) asked what is happening down at Kingston Polytechnic — "Under the guise of staff 'cuts' the school of architecture seems to be undergoing a subtle change of tack, orchestrated by an inner cabal of full-timers."

Peter Jacob (deputy head of the school) did not disappoint anyone with the predictability of his reply (August 8) which pleaded that "it is simply the unrelenting and depressing effort of maintaining a part-time staff in the teeth of the unending munificence of the Department of Education and Science".

In a recent letter to Hannah Vowles (part-time tutor who ran the first year last year and who has resigned in protest over the "cuts") Dennis Berry (head of school) explained: "It is not my intention that we should no longer employ non-architects, and if ever the day does come when funds are more plentiful in education, I shall be the first to extend the staff beyond the minimum nuts and bolts level... We are to be visited, as you know, by the RIBA and the CNAA next year. It would be thoroughly irresponsible of me to present them with a staff devoid of technology specialists but including a painter, no matter how valuable or eloquent he may be in architectural debate."

I may be, to use Marcel Duchamp's phrase, "dumb as a painter" (though eloquent) but I would suggest that the above paragraph implies a serious attack of "post-Esher" paranoia and perhaps it is not surprising for a school "devoid of technology specialists" nervously facing visits by the RIBA and CNAA. Needless to say this continues the issue (or in the case of Kingston, should we say, closes down the issue) of "specialist technology" versus architectural debate in schools of architecture in which *Building Design* has recently involved itself.

Apart from this, it may interest lovers of intrigue to know that Dennis Berry does not seem to know that an "inner cabal of full-timers" seems to know that the *day* has already come when funds are more plentiful, as the part-time teaching staff has already been extended again beyond the minimum nuts and bolts level — with the recruitment of a (non-architect) graphic designer from the Kingston art foundation course to replace me. It is clear that words and actions emerging from full-timers at Kingston do not match up.

It would seem then that with the non-renewal of the contracts of myself, Joanna Savory and Nick Timms, and the resignation of Hannah Vowles, Kingston architecture school is indeed undergoing "a self-inflicted attack of conservatism" and a not-so-subtle change of tack, which will hopefully get rid of the enviable reputation we have brought to the school in recent years.

Glyn Banks  
London N1

structure. Perversely, architects are expected to achieve standards of performance that would qualify for a halo and to take the blame for almost anything and everything that can go wrong on a building contract.

I think it is time for both architects and insurers to consider the possible long-term effects of this situation and to take a more realistic view of present actions.

Low fee-bidding, mentioned by W Evans as something that may be taken into account in assessing premiums (The cost of cover September 19) is only one of many factors that may affect the insurance of contract administration, claims and investigative work, so here is my selection of three other factors which, in my opinion, are not only common but most hazardous:

- Use of the JCT 63 and JCT 80 Forms of Contract which impose unnecessarily complex and rigid administrative arrangements upon architects. These create hazards peculiar to their use and they increase the architect's costs without compensation from additional fees.

● The misuse of technicians to administer contracts on-site and the general use of technicians without qualified supervision in circumstances where such supervision is necessary.

● A failure to have drawings checked before they are used.

To encourage architects to reduce these risks, to the advantage of themselves and their insurers, it might be an idea to offer reductions of premiums in the following circumstances:

- where all partners in a practice are professionally qualified as architects, engineers or surveyors;
- where all design and detailing is under the direct control of a qualified architect;
- where only qualified architects are permitted to administer building contracts on-site;
- where all drawings are signed as checked by a qualified architect before being issued for use by other consultants or contractors;
- where practices undertake not to use the JCT 63 or JCT 80 forms of contract.

Acceptance of this idea of giving discounts for safer working practices would allow architects to make rational choices in the matter of indemnity insurance. Evans wrote that he would be interested in the comments of insurers. So would I.

John Newlove  
Hullfax

Each may do an abortive scheme in turn and each is understandably vexed when the scheme which is approved was not his.

By 1974, with the early "fair rent" schemes entering the

system, the housing associations were falling up with development officers and the cost was met by generous "development allowances" earned on each successful project. Those of us in the business soon found that this income, particularly when combined with in-house fees, comfortably supported the essential ongoing speculations including the cost of stage A and B work by outside consultants. Typically, these work stages were offered to consultants already on stream and the cost would be gauged accordingly.

In the 80s, however, the position has worsened. The Housing Corporation's position is precisely the same and it cannot pay for failure which it did not initiate. But the associations are no longer so able or willing to back up their "pre-loan approval" instructions with cash. This is partly due to their declining programmes — too many of them chasing too little finance — but also to the committees' attitudes to accountability which leads to them having more panel consultants than their programmes justify.

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## Letters

Much of the present interest in underground shopping is aimed at the use of under-utilised below-ground space in city centres; is this to be condemned also in favour of further sprawl? Arthur Quarby  
Huddersfield

## Missing the point

From Michael Perring  
YOUR correspondent H J Meyer warns us again that working for housing associations may damage your health. One of the 2,500 architects who does (Letters September 5) bravely explains why, but I feel both are missing the point.

The Housing Corporation opened its doors for business in 1964 and the first questions asked, by the first applicants for loans, were about the fee risk. As some of the schemes shown were slightly dusty with age, for sites which had also been around for some time, the corporation could not have picked up every fee tag. Also, like any bank, there had to be security (in land) for every loan agreement and every payment made.

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A further problem is that it now takes so long even for an approved scheme to get under way. The panel architect may have to see his one scheme to satisfactory completion (five years after he was first penalised) before being asked again.

Meanwhile, a significant change is taking place in the way associations obtain their housing stock. They are buying packages from developers and the irony, for the consultants, is that the Housing Corporation — having seen how long its procedures take — now actively encourages these off-the-peg purchases and a quicker cash flow to the associations.

The proper response from the profession is to urge the corporation to strive to restore the excellent position which prevailed in the 70s:

First to allow associations to perform their proper client function and to seek only commissioned schemes, fully detailed and supervised.

Secondly for the associations to trim their own overheads to fund genuine stage A and stage B work or to trim the size of their panels so that consultants with schemes in hand can do feasibility economically.

Thirdly, the arguing between the profession and the associa-

tions has to stop so that this worthwhile enterprise can proceed as it was intended. And that must, without prevarication, allow that our professional liability is no different here than for any other client.

Michael Perring  
London WC1

## At least we're honest

## BUILDING DESIGN

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## The Editor's Comment



## Conference special

THE trouble with party conferences, especially of the pre-election variety, is that the delegates feel compelled to air their views on weighty matters of state, which generally only goes to show that however slow-witted their leaders, they are streets ahead of the rank and file. This is good for a laugh, of course, and reminds us of the dictum that farce is the tragedy that happens to outsiders, tragedy the farce that happens to you. I think of this every time the Liberal Assembly meets. It is rare for delegates to discuss something they know about, and which might be popular with the electorate. Instead they pontificate about defence, economics etc. But why not discuss easy vote winners? And come to that, why not put cheap and popular policies in election manifestos — for example the outlawing of compulsory service charges in restaurants, the provision of enough rubbish bins on our streets, or the elimination of VAT on theatre and cinema tickets?

The notion of dreaming up popular if

relatively unimportant policies has been explored in the past; when Joe Haines was a leading light in the Labour Party he once drew up such a list. Unfortunately for him, it included giving council tenants the right to buy their homes, which rubbed Labour's Mr Bumbles up the wrong way and resulted in his package of measures being dropped from the manifesto. Haines was cleverer than the Labour local authority big chiefs, and the Tories cashed in on his ideas about council housing to good effect in 1979. Tories never have ideas of their own but they can spot (and steal) good ones; Labour has plenty, but always distrusts their originators — more tragedy and farce.

It was a pleasant surprise, therefore, to read the recent SDP policy for the arts, which contains some good ideas, both cheap and practical. The one of most direct interest to architects is the proposal to make clients pay 1 per cent of the cost of the building towards art to be incorporated in it. The details of the

policy are fuzzy, as the party refreshingly admits. But the notion is a good one, though there are some reservations. The principal of these is that "compulsory art" will result in the widespread commissioning of not-very-good art, on the more means worse principle. This is probably a risk worth taking since average art is infinitely better than none at all. This policy is scarcely likely to be a big vote-winner, but as a good idea it is now up for grabs. The Art & Architecture Group should be thanking Dr Owen, who should now get someone to write him a paper on the desirability of landscaping.

## Infill

Moving image  
Alan Phillips

## Faith and favour

ONE of the marvellous things about America — at least in some of the states — is the absence of planning regulations. Walking across 260 acres of Mississippi farmland, including some beautifully fragile landscape, my client was horrified at the suggestion that some other authority might control and influence her right to build or, God forbid, how the building might look. The land belonged to her, and she could build where she liked and how she liked. It was a strange and new feeling to come away from our first meeting with no more between me and my architecture than imagination. No application forms, conferences, negotiations or compromises. Just an act of faith by the people of the state, that the architect is the most capable person to make architecture.

And there are no qualms about building in an area of outstanding natural beauty. Everything needs to be measured against its opposite, and there

base of contemporary urban design theory. It is a city of edges, layers and surreal juxtaposition. In the Old Town especially, one is continuously aware of being on a bridge, above a road, above another bridge — or on a pavement that suddenly rises above ground to then plunge down yet another monumental staircase to meet a moat or a market. One of the most enjoyable experiences is to walk backwards up the Royal Mile towards the castle. Being conscious that you are in the centre of a capital city, it is almost abstract to watch the scene appearing over the roof of the palace, inverting the spatial layering and setting a watery canvas behind the tunnel of historical buildings. Or walk in the opposite direction, past the palace, with your eyes closed. After only three minutes, and without looking back, it would be easy to pretend that the city does not exist; climbing Arthur's Seat, it is almost as if the great Rock is a landscaped metaphor for the town itself. Lakes sit above lakes, which sit above the sea — paths lace together dips and rises — and the outcrops of granite bear reference to the Great Mediaeval Edge by the Royal Mile which cascades into the valley and complements the peopled line of Princes Street.

The New and Old Towns work together simply because they do not try to imitate each other. There is no compromise, and nor should there be in future interventions. But I am suspicious that the City Fathers will yet again dissolve the passions of the young architects under the specious blackmail of context. Context should never be seen as some kind of levelling device. It is a challenge, and an opportunity for counterpoint and juxtaposition. Imitation is not the highest form of compliment, it is the lowest form of insult. And the sort of pastiche creeping into the heart of Edinburgh will surely destroy a city whose very brilliance depends upon a history of courage and commitment to the "Architecture of an Age".



can be no better challenge to the man-made than the magnificent excesses of our "natural" world. When our architects at home are relegated to railway sidings, disused car parks or polluted inner-city infill sites as potential places for great architecture, it is perhaps no wonder that more and more are clinging to the eclectic petticoats of history.

Witness the fabulous train journey from Paddington to the West Country and it is almost too obvious how the architecture improves (with and without architects) as you move from the cities to the countryside between. Moreover, it is somehow expected that a great house, folly or chimney will characterise a rolling landscape, or that a cliff will be marked with staircase or hotel.

Imagine the Lot Valley in the Dordogne without its buildings, or the gardens at Stourhead without the temples and grottoes.

## Layers and lace

EDINBURGH is one of the most three-dimensional cities in the world. It is also a city for walking which promotes a greater appreciation of its qualities. The site, of course, helped. Yet the almost mystical response to the valleys and vistas challenges the overly rational

Square  
Trafalgar

BACK to London and it becomes impossible to pass through Trafalgar Square without comment. Here is a great site in a famous urban landscape. How can it be therefore, given that all the other buildings were expressing with degrees of success the spirit of their age, that a facsimile of a parody of a pastiche of a "classical" prototype could in any way be seen as mirroring the cultural ambitions of a nation that trembles 14 years from the 21st century?

More alarmingly if we are to understand the decision of the jury at Grand Buildings as some sort of barometer as to architecture's current predilections, it might be better to form an "Architects for Export" club, and lobby people like President Mitterrand. His belief in contemporary design, proven by Philippe Starck's commissions for the president's private rooms, shames Thatcher who, given a perfect opportunity to support architecture, abdicates her duty as a cultural patron in favour of a Barratts Special in Dulwich.

## NOW'S THE TIME TO TALK TO IBSTOCK.

HAPPILY, INSPIRATION MAY STRIKE AT ANY TIME. BUT BACK AT THE OFFICE COMES THE RECKONING. IS IT PRACTICAL? IS IT AFFORDABLE? IS THERE A BETTER WAY? THIS IS THE TIME WHEN ARCHITECTS AND OTHER SPECIFIERS SHOULD INVESTIGATE THEIR BRICKWORK IDEAS AT THEIR NEAREST IBSTOCK BRICKWORK DESIGN CENTRE. DISCUSS THE TECHNICAL AND STRUCTURAL ASPECTS OF YOUR DESIGNS WITH BRICK SPECIALISTS IN A RELAXED YET PROFESSIONAL ENVIRONMENT. OR SIMPLY CALL IN TO KEEP IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH THE LATEST DESIGN AND PRODUCT DEVELOPMENTS. IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY TO TALK TO IBSTOCK.

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## Perspective

## Happy families

BRENDAN Woods was one person everyone wanted to talk to on the evening when 11 Park Road, north London, was declared open.

Woods, of Solon Cooperative Design Group, was the architect responsible for the conversion into four flats. He had become quite a friend of the Shrine Housing Cooperative and something of a hero for making the dreams of so many come true.

Shrine was set up in 1982 as a democratic Afro-Carib co-operative to buy, lease, convert or improve properties and build new ones. This house was bought in April 1984 and various members of the co-operative lived there on short-let tenancies until the conversion began in May 85. The £75,000 project was funded by Brent council.

Architecturally the house is not especially complex, although the division into four one-bedroom units produces some difficult orientation. A first-floor maisonette leads down into the rear extension.

Throughout the 12-month contract the architects and co-op members met on the first Monday of each month to thrash out what everybody wanted and what was feasible. The close co-ordination between designer and end-users meant the residents could be involved in the choice of their own colour schemes — some of which are highly individual — laminates, ironmongery and kitchen units.

For Alex de Rijke, Woods' assistant, this was one of the most positive aspects of the project: "It's so much more fun to work this way. If things start to get over budget, you can just get together and make sure no-one gets too disillusioned."

Each flat is based on an octagonal shape; in some it takes



The Baptists from the top-floor flat. (Photos Geoff Beckman)

the form of an entire room, in others it is the reception room with the kitchen partitioned off. The building bears the hallmarks of Woods' style, the addition of porthole windows at each level and terraces and balconies marked by grey trellises. The four units are clearly defined and the choice of decoration undertaken with each occupant. And for the

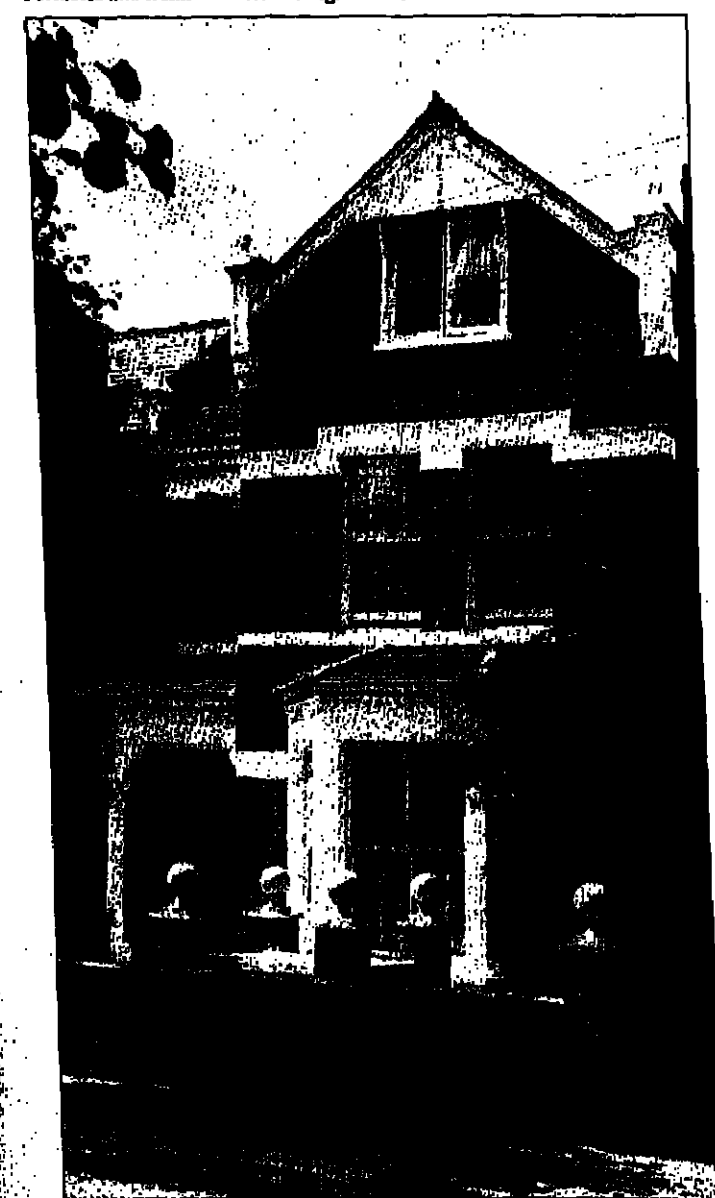
residents the pride in what they had helped achieve was apparent.

Fiona G.

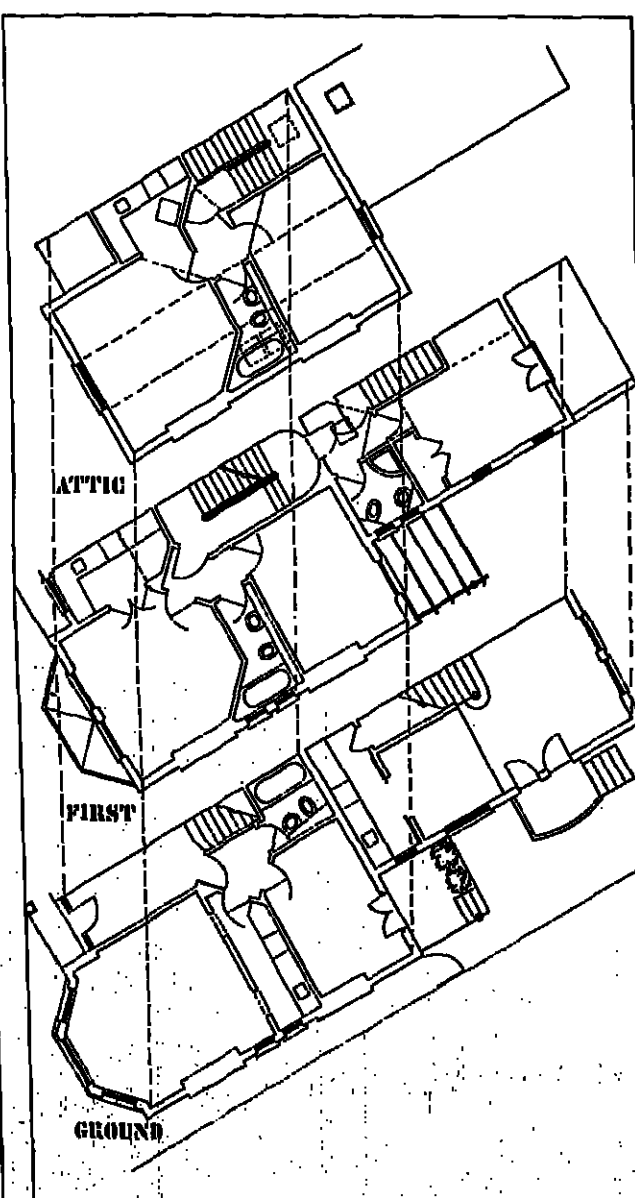
Client: Shrine Housing Co-op; Architect: Brendan Woods; Cooperative Design Group; Contractor: Ben Rhoads; Construction Co. Sinter; Joinery: Sam Jampel & Co; Joinery: Stuart Case of J&S Sons.



Portholes and trellises — Woods' signatures.



A bit of paint and good as new, 11 Park Road.



Split-level floor plans.



The ground-floor flat and maisonette; each have a terrace.

## Scorpio



## Bank of England plans up in smoke

REVISED to alter the Bank of England's interior may have to be rethought again after the mysterious fire last week.

Only a month or so ago, that conservation watchdog the London Advisory Committee rejected an application by the bank for alterations to two of its major rooms so that its museum could be enlarged.

Commissioners took a very dim view of the plans, which included inserting a mezzanine floor into the Rotunda and "Soane Hall", which although altered by Sir Herbert Baker is still considered one of the bank's architectural glories.

Go back to the drawing board, advised the committee. The bank duly obeyed and fresh plans, we hear, are now on their way to English Heritage.

But now the bank could have to start all over again. The fire, which started in one of six wooden huts belonging to contractors Higgs & Hill, was directly above the Soane Hall.

Luckily the flames swept up, not down, but fire damage could mean that the bank has more on its hands than simply enlarging a museum.

## Settling in nicely

THERE is no truth in the scurrilous rumour circulating at the RIBA that David Pearce resigned only days after accepting the editorship of *The Architect*. None whatsoever, says Pearce, who admits in the same breath that "things weren't easy after Jonathan left".

But we're happy to report that Pearce is now firmly in control, "giving more emphasis to the affairs of the RIBA", and "what it's really like to be an architect".

Meanwhile, the man-who-could-have-been-editor, father-to-be Stephen Trombley, has been reduced to writing about the dietary habits of dogs for the *Mail on Sunday's* magazine. "Why shouldn't dogs be vegetarians?" he asks me provocatively, as we work our way through venison paté and steak tartare.

## Look and learn

FUN and games are in store at the Building 86 exhibition which opens at midday on Sunday (October 5) at Earls Court. Forget about dull product shows of the past — instead we have an exhibition produced like a magazine (courtesy of Bob Smart at BDP), with themes, headlines, features etc.

The fun will take place in a space at the end of the exhibition area, where imagineers including ex-BD editor Sutherland Lyall have devised competitions to test the wits of design professionals.

Among these are a variation on "The price is right" for quantity surveyors, who will have to identify the correct prices of building products (not their value). It won't be quite as simple as it sounds, because price questions will include the price of items 30 years ago.

Architects are being set a structural design problem (judges include Bob Smart and engineer Tony Hunt), involving a Jan Kaplicky-type scenario incorporating a cube and a brick. I dare not say more.

One idea outlawed by the organisers involved a team of dwarfs pulling energy supremo Peter Walker along on the back of an elephant. Apparently the hire of the elephant was thought excessive.

## Vanishing point

WHILE plans for the tallest building in Europe, a 60-storey tower in Whitechapel, have been shelved, the dynamic duo — I mean of course Ian Ritchie and developer Roy Sandhu — have come up with another scheme.

Apparently Sandhu has ideas about converting a tea-shop in St Katharine's Dock into a restaurant. What type? Who knows, but in a clear reference to the office tower, the restaurant's likely name: The Indian Rope Trick.

## Scene and heard

TRYING to get your wife to give up smoking? John Seifert has the answer. He bought Mrs S a valuable ring — provided she gave up the weed. If she reverts? He takes the ring away and gives it to her sister!

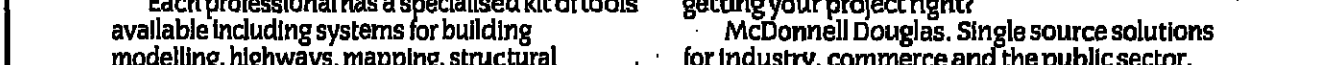
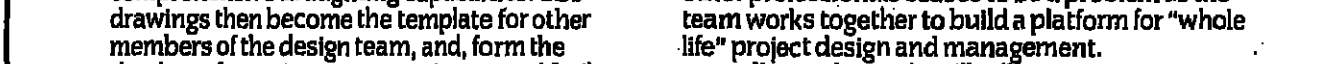
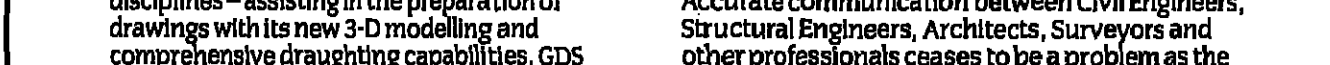
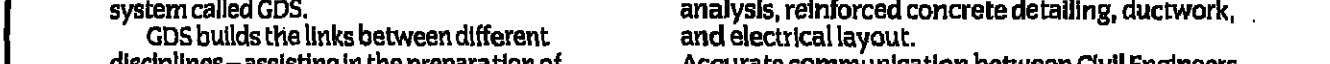
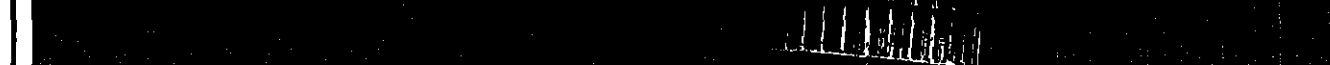
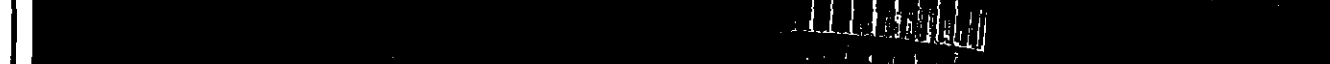
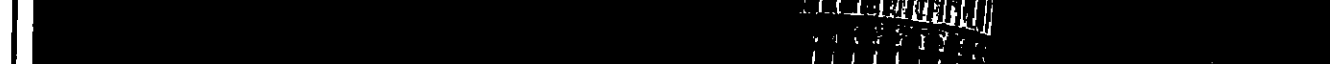
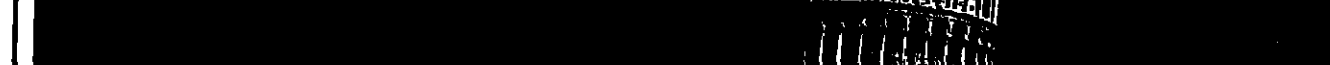
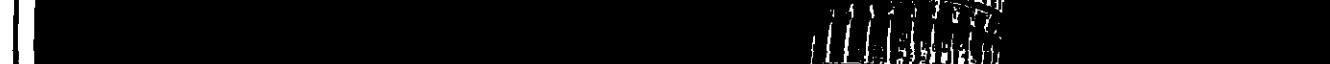
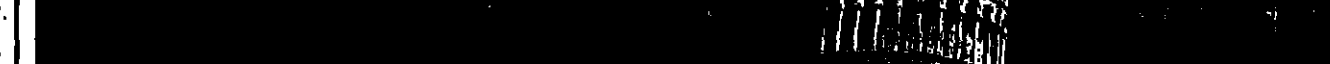
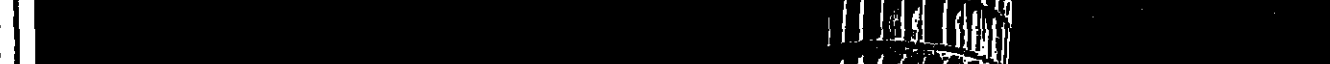
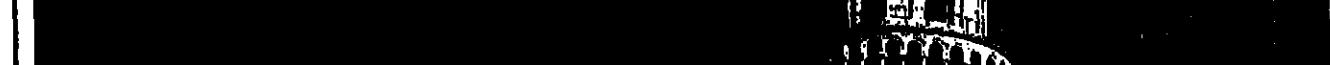
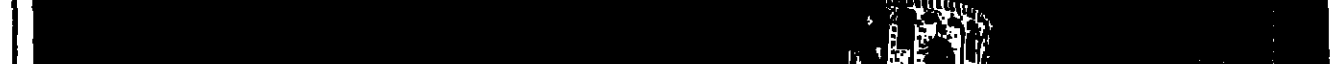
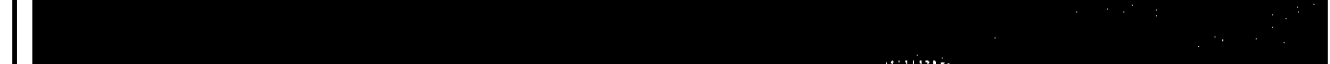
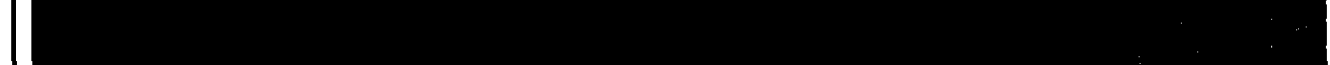
● PROPERTY people are, as we all know, dynamic, efficient, up-to-the-minute etc. Do they know something about Sir Philip and Hidalgo that has escaped the rest of us? The Cambridge University Land Society has arranged a tour round the Queen Elizabeth Conference Centre, which they say has been designed by Pearl Meyer & Partners.

● A CURIOUS story in the *Asian Wall Street Journal* describes a lavatory unit developed for Japanese Railways which contains magnetic timing devices buried in the door. These set off a 1.5 gallon flush if the user stays inside the stall two minutes or less, while a three-gallon flush is activated if the user has stayed more than two minutes. You just have to hope you don't get locked in.

## 10 years ago

TOO many buildings are being listed, says Lady Birk, a junior DoE minister. She told a conference at Oxford that many marginal buildings, particularly from the late 19th century, were being included. Soon fewer would be given the benefit of the doubt. Listing was setting down the marker, she said. It did not mean those selected would be preserved for all time. *Building Design*, October 1, 1976.

## Statistics



## One way to build a reputation

Today, the designer of the Leaning Tower of Pisa would probably end up in prison rather than in the history books. And all for the sake of a breakdown in communications between architect and engineer.

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# Taking care of business

The Whinney Mackay-Lewis Partnership celebrated its centenary in 1984. Now it's going for USM listing. Lynda Relf-Knight reports.

THE Whinney Mackay-Lewis Partnership is set to become a household name after comparative obscurity outside the City of London. Apart from the Credit Lyonnais Bank, which hit the headlines in the 1970s as the first British building to use grc cladding, the practice's work has largely gone unnoticed by the media.

Yet that work has developed steadily over the last 100 years and is now frequently in the multi-million pound bracket. While other practices have suffered the severe blows of the recession, Whinney Mackay-Lewis has not only survived the storm but is prospering.

The key to that success lies very much with the practice's speciality, for since its conception in 1884 as Whinney, Son & Austin Hall it has concentrated on financial buildings.

Brought about by a touch of nepotism when accountant Sir Arthur Whinney introduced his architect cousin T B Whinney to Midland Bank chief Sir Edward Holden, the workload has traditionally included banks, notably the Midland for its City-based "wholesale" outlets, as well as the high street "retail" branches. More recently some 70 foreign banks have been added to the client list, along with City guilds such as the Fishmongers and Clothworkers, and organisations such as

the London International Financial Futures Exchange.

"Nothing has changed over the century," Mackay-Lewis says of the practice in his usual slogan style. "Quality remains the keynote."

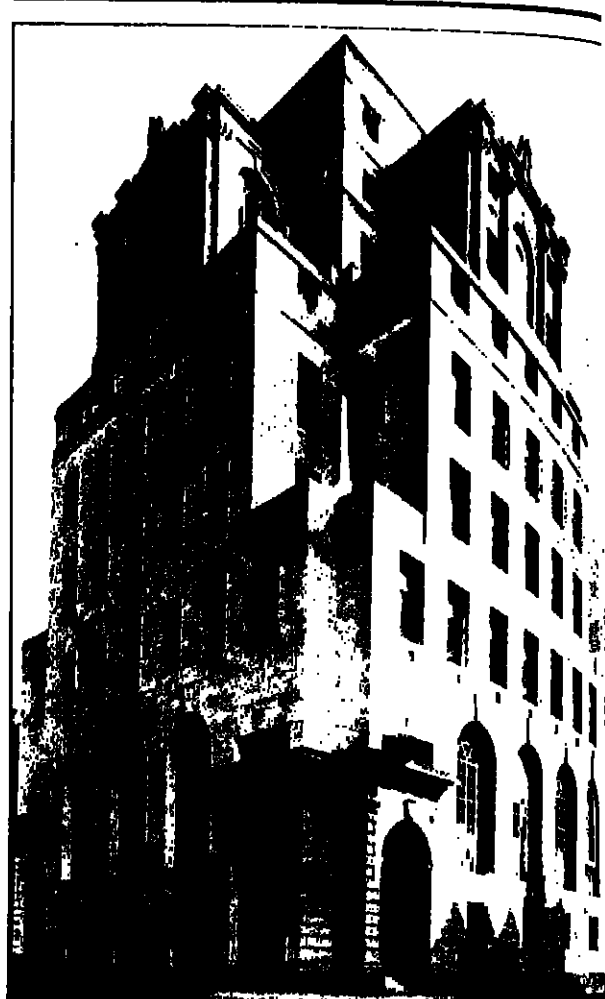
The concentration on financial buildings also accounts for the anonymity that shrouds Whinney Mackay-Lewis. "We are fluent in every style of architecture," boasts Mackay-Lewis. "You cannot recognise our work as we are not using the client as an end. Each institution wants its own image." Certainly, that claim is born out if you consider the eccentric Credit Lyonnais scheme alongside its recently-revamped neighbour. The practice has upgraded the latter, a spec-built office block, using banded silver aluminium cladding. No one would guess that the same architect had a hand in the adjacent schemes.

The general approach, according to Mackay-Lewis, is to design the building from the inside out. This is important because of the special requirements of the financial fraternity and because their buildings are often public environments as well as security strongholds. "We design the whole building," he adds. The practice is multidisciplinary with its own interior design department as well as in-house services engineers. Clients are offered a maintenance programme.

Design has clearly had its moments, notably through past links with architects of the calibre of the original partner Austin Hall and Lutyens, with whom the practice collaborated on Midland bank schemes in the 20s and 30s. Prouvé, France's late great master, was called to advise on the cladding for Credit Lyonnais, while interior design links were long established with artist and craft designer Algy Apsey. But on the whole the buildings are safely competent, oozing with quality, but without sparkle.

What is impressive, not to say daunting, is the way the practice is run, for here the partners have clearly got the measure of their clients. "As an architect, I have designed the organisation instead of a building," says Mackay-Lewis with total justification. And the results are formidable.

Balancing professional with commercial enterprise, the organisation falls into two parts: the partnership with its four partners, and the company. Mackay-Lewis is senior partner of the practice and managing director of the company. He explains that all transactions are handled by the partnership, which acts as an interface between the client and the company. If a job is accepted, it is then delegated to the company for design and management. The arrangement "enables me



The Midland Bank in King Street, Manchester, designed with Lutyens in 1933.

to manage," says Mackay-Lewis. "We are in theory trustees," he adds, speaking of the partners. "Unless you have superb financial control, the organisation won't be profitable."

Nor does the system end with the titles. A regular sequence of meetings and reviews is used to monitor the practice's progress. Every quarter, for example, there is a compulsory day-long staff meeting to discuss the work in hand and the business of the practice, while clients receive a monthly "statement" on the progress of their contract.

For all that, Mackay-Lewis claims to give considerable autonomy to the professionals on his team, encouraging them to see a lot of their clients and soil their shoes on site. The designers tend to work in teams of around half a dozen and he himself remains a designer, though working more at the conceptual stage of a project.

Whatever one's view of the resulting architecture, it is hard to dispute Whinney Mackay-Lewis' standing. Jeremy Mackay-Lewis is well poised to comment on the changing demands of financial clients and his observations offer some surprises. Traditionally more conservative than other commercial organisations, the bankers are now, he says, turning more to competitors as a means of selecting their designers. Gone are the days of the retained

architect, and his designers often find themselves up against the likes of BMW, Fiat, Robinson, Thomas Saunders Arup Associates, when trying for a job—even for the Midland Bank!

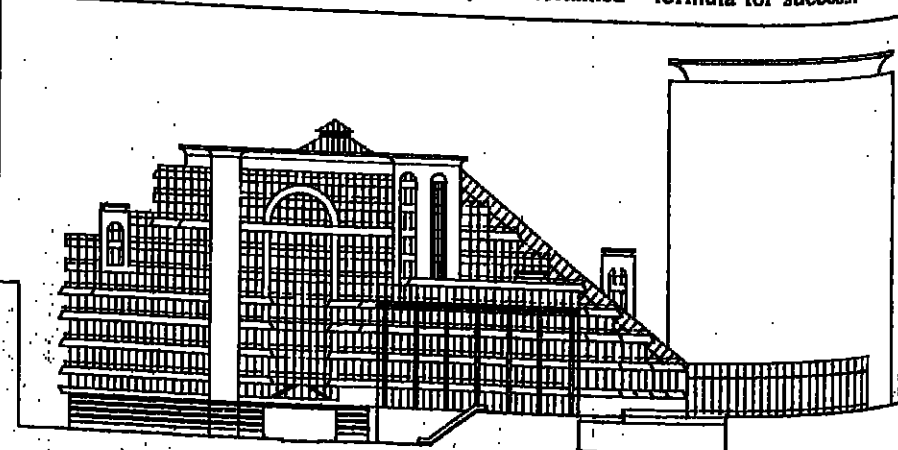
Meanwhile, the briefs he changed to accommodate a changing face of banking. "They have changed from cash strongholds to being cashless," says Mackay-Lewis of "wholesale" buildings. The vaults are therefore becoming redundant as security storage and practices such as his have been brought in to re-plan these spaces. A recent example is Whinney Mackay-Lewis's Banque Paribas in London Lombard Street, where the vaults have been gutted to form an atrium under an artificial sky.

By the same token, roofs are becoming more important, he says, as the use of telecommunications increases in the financial world. There is an awful lot of hardware to be accommodated there.

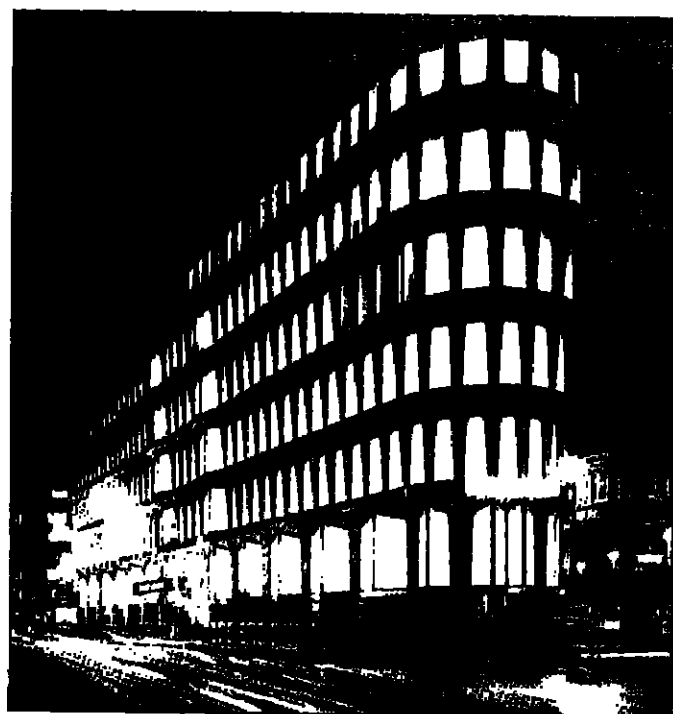
"The building concept has been turned upside down," he concludes.

He sees his practices covering new ground, expanding particularly into interior design, hotels and conference centres.

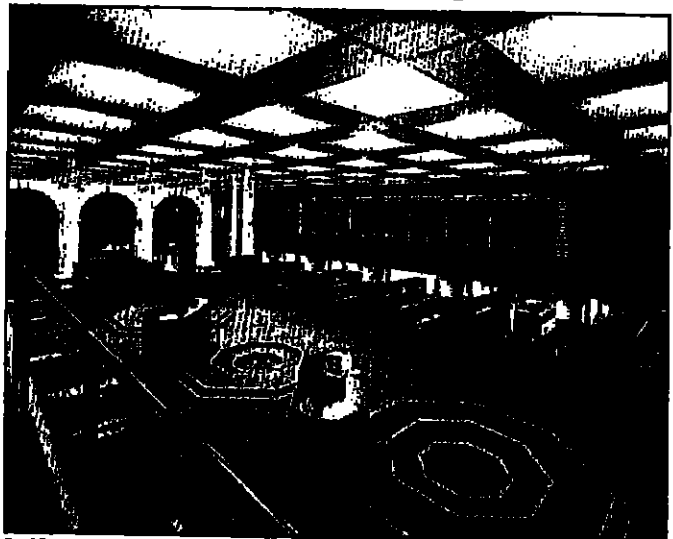
Certainly, it is his belief that by centering designs on the requirements of each client and by employing good people, the practice will continue with a formula for success.



"Aztec-shaped" design for new City offices, part of the City Plaza plan to bridge Fore Street and London Wall.



The innovative Credit Lyonnais Bank, its grc cladding still unstained.



Inside the London International Futures Exchange.

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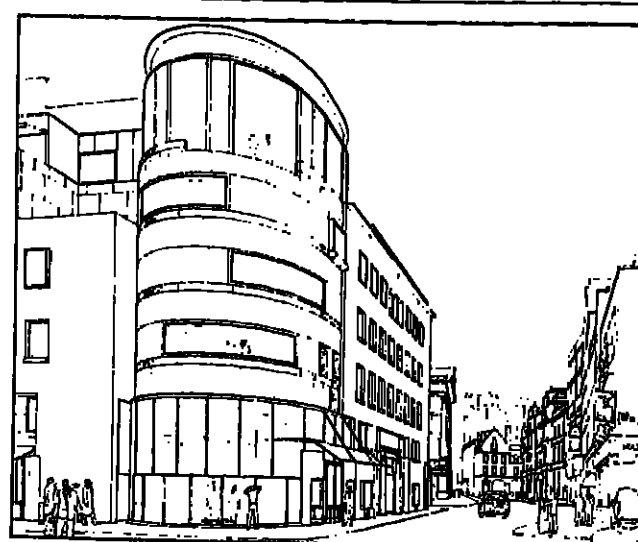


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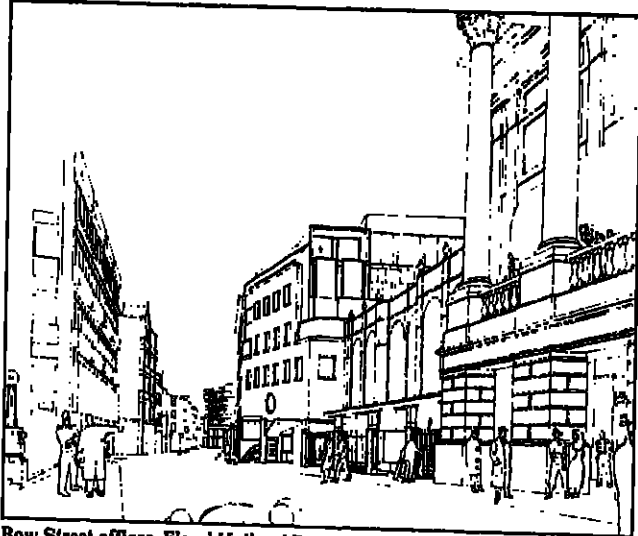




The arcades are double-height, barrel-vaulted spaces.



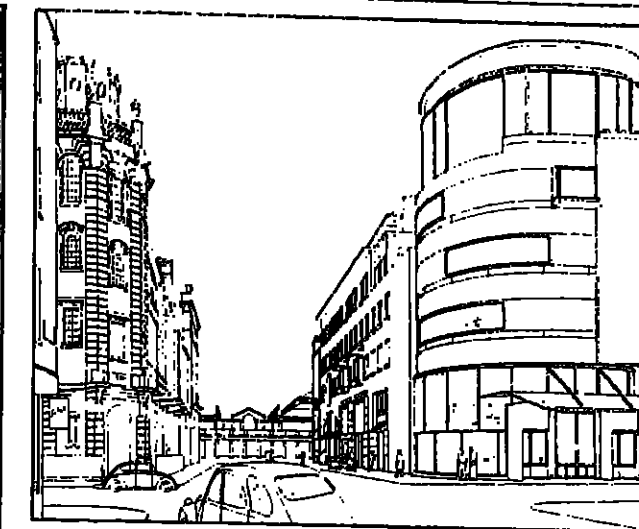
View up Bow Street with office entrance in corner rotunda.



Bow Street offices, Floral Hall and Barry's portico.



Enclosure of the square is re-established with the arcade, which unifies the commercial parts of the scheme. The new Opera House entrance is in the corner.



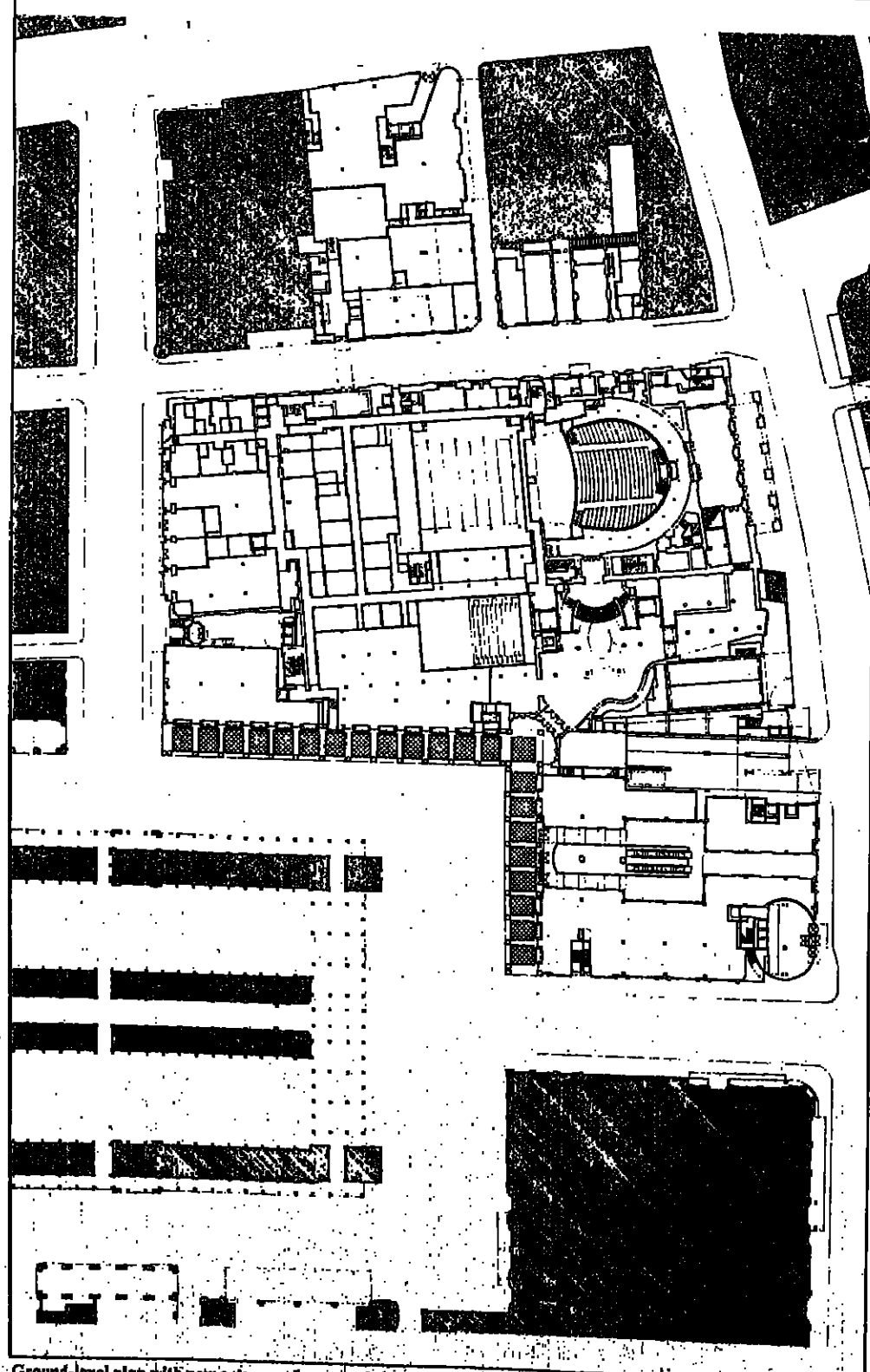
Office entrance and Russell Street towards the market buildings.



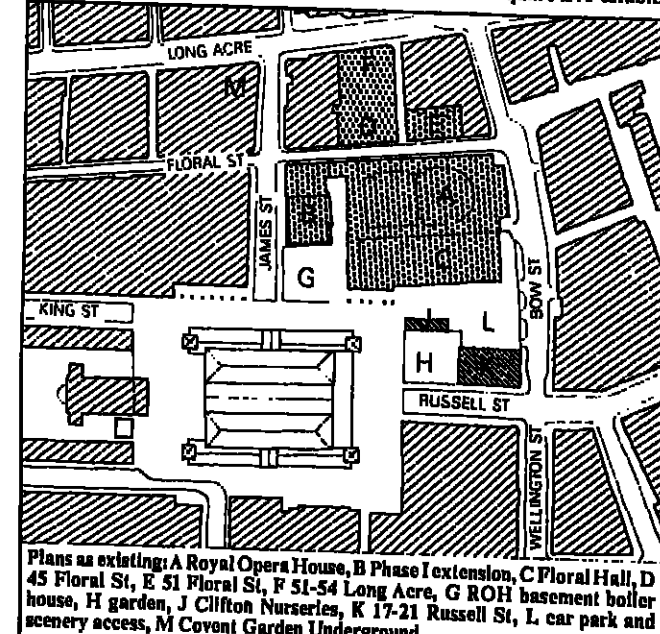
Russell Street shops with end of the arcade building.



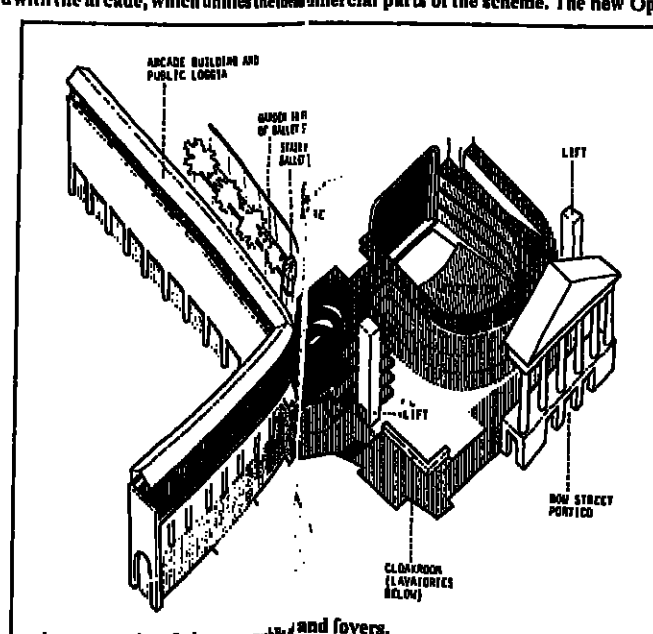
Continuous shopping frontage is provided onto the square.



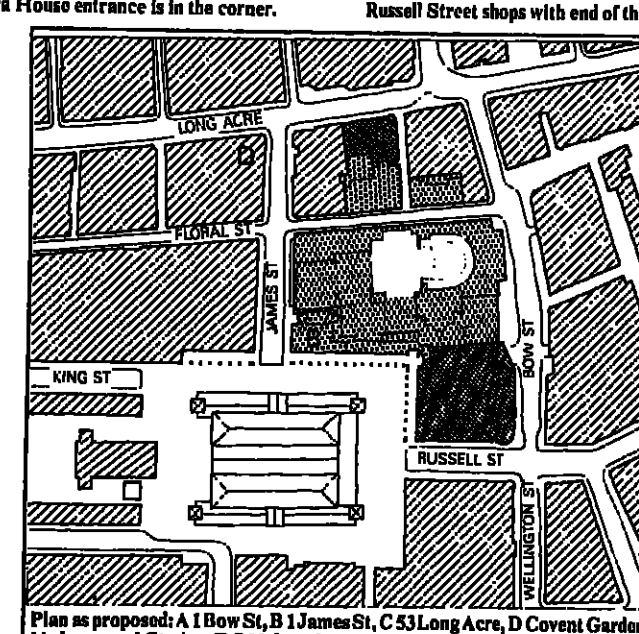
Ground-level plan with new entrance, foyers and shopping hall. The Bow Street entrance is seen as complementary.



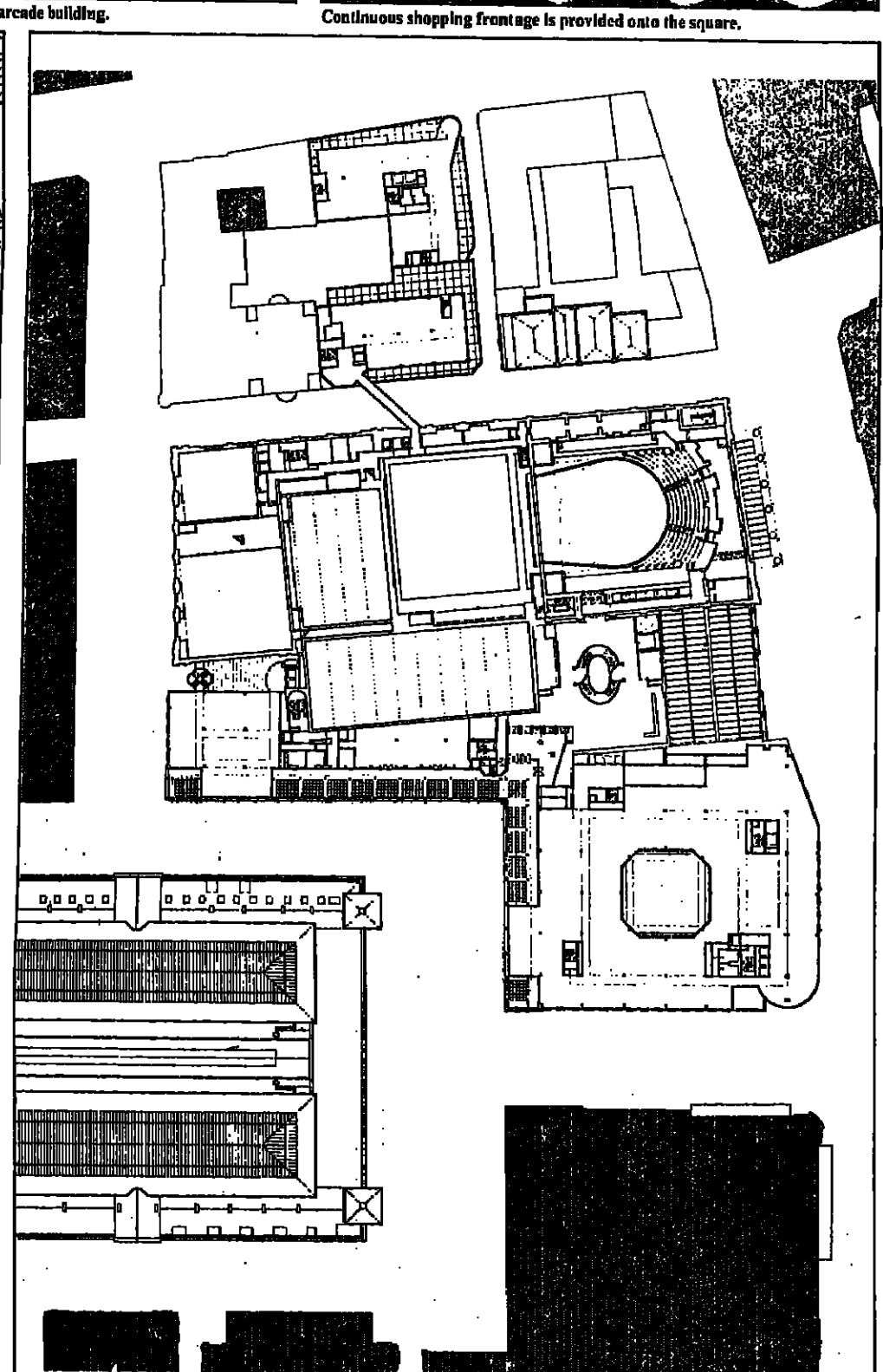
Plans as existing: A Royal Opera House, B Phase I extension, C Floral Hall, D 45 Floral St, E 51 Floral St, F 51-54 Long Acre, G ROH basement boiler house, H garden, J Clifton Nurseries, K 17-21 Russell St, L car park and scenery access, M Covent Garden Underground.



Axonometric of the new public and foyers.



Plan as proposed: A 1 Bow St, B 1 James St, C 53 Long Acre, D Covent Garden Underground Station (ROH dotted, commercial sites hatched).



Loggia level plan: the covered outdoor promenade is continuous with the amphitheatre foyer.

THE wisdom of the decision in June 1984 to commission Jeremy Dixon/BDP against eminent opposition to re-develop the Royal Opera House in Covent Garden is confirmed by the qualities of the proposals put in for planning permission today.

The £55 million budget covers the cost of essential updating to the Opera's technical facilities, including a new fly-tower, stage and side stages, bringing the backstage areas more into line with other premier opera houses. Adjustment of the proscenium arch will improve sight lines, and

air-conditioning, supplied and integrated from systems carefully decorated, will improve audience comfort.

Accommodation and support areas for the Royal Opera Company, the Orchestra and the Royal Ballet (which will move back from its west London premises) are housed around and above the stages as well as in new buildings

across Floral Street, linked by bridges which allow easy access to the stage.

Although none of the arcades around the Garden square are of Dixon's design, the scheme has taken the opportunity to reinstate the north-east corner to the opera in the form of a separate element with height galleries at ground level giving onto shops, and

open loggia directly accessible from the amphitheatre foyer at the top of the new double spiral stair. A new entrance, complementary to the existing Bow Street entry, is formed off the corner, thus re-establishing the important relationship of the opera with the lively activity in the square.

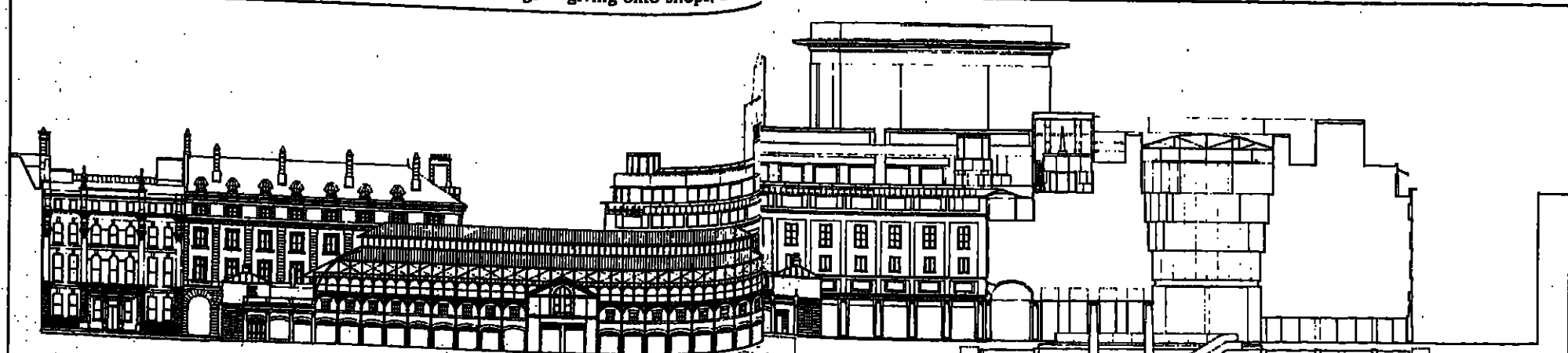
Stylistically Dixon's scheme is sympathetic to such a sensitive setting, but the character of the

various new components changes in response to the different contexts and contents. Hence the striking modern corner rotunda of the office building entrance contrasts with the more restrained, subservient elevations of the same block. The scheme is diagrammatically logical and as simple as the programme allows, but the edges — particularly at lower levels and where pedes-

trians pass — are consciously more eventful.

The scheme should start on site in 1988; the Opera will provisionally close in 1991 and reopen two years later when building work is complete.

Architects: Jeremy Dixon/BDP. Structural engineers: Alan Baxter & Associates. Quantity surveyors: Gardner & Theobald. Services engineers: Building Design Partnership. Construction advisers: Higgs & Hill. Technical coordinator: John Wyckham Associates. Acoustics: Artec Consultants. Public safety: Fire Check Consultants. Project management: Darlington Management Services. Paintings: Carl Lambin. Models: Thorpe Models Group. Photographs: Richard Davies.



Section showing south elevation, the market shopping mall and the linking pedestrian shopping hall within the office building.

## New Products

Compiled by Harold Hudson

## New show looks set for success

RESPONSE to Building 86, the new building industry exhibition which will take place at Earls Court from October 5-9, has been excellent. All sites in the eight theme areas have been snapped up long ago and bookings have spilled over into peripheral areas.

Building 86 departs from the traditional building exhibition in several ways. The chief take-off point being the show's emphasis on themes of current interest. After extensive research, the organisers fixed on the eight most popular themes in building today, and created the show layout around them.

As a result, you will be able to see the familiar exhibitors collected in a different permutation this time, in areas named "Refurbishment", "Repair and maintenance", "New products in the market", "Houses into homes", "New design trends";

"The quality factor"; "Energy in buildings"; "Communications technology"; and "Safe and secure".

In addition, the organisers promise us what they call "entertainment, seminars and visual shows, as well as a major event staged by the RIBA". The official opening ceremony will be undertaken by Peter Walker, the secretary of state for energy. Some of the event titles announced include "The Great Wooden Spoon Race", an event which takes place on most days, "What price was that?", a lunchtime panel game, and "RIBA Young Lions Presentation".

Certainly Building 86 should prove an interesting way to spend a day and the organisers are to be congratulated on trying to breathe new life into a traditional building exhibition.

Harold Hudson

If you would like more information on the products on these pages, fill in and return the pre-paid enquiry card.

## Automatic switches

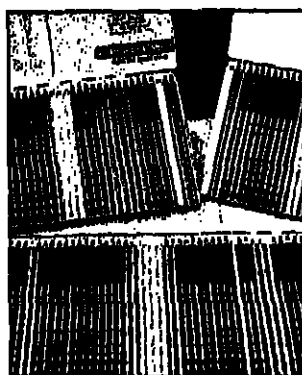


LIGHTSPOT is an automatic switch which, when its ultra-sonic detector senses movement, switches the lights on. After a pre-selected period in which no movement has taken place, LightSpot will also turn the lights off. The device can be organised to be sensitive to movement in one section of a space only, for instance between rows of racking, and ignore movement outside that area. The energy saving potential is clearly huge.

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## Charcoal pencils

COMBINING the versatility of pastels with the convenience of pencils, the new Carb-Othello coloured charcoal pastel pencils from Schwan-Stabilo comprise 60 vibrant colours, including black in three degrees of hardness. They can be smudged and erased, and blended with water as required to create a wide variety of effects. The pencils are available individually or in metal box sets of 12, 24, 36, 48 or 60.



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## ACCESS CONTROL

APPLICABLE to maximum security areas, Newmark Technology's new Controlpoint access system consists of a microprocessor-based controller which is remotely addressed via an entrypoint sensor unit by any number of hand-held commanders. By means of an infra-red transmission, a coded dialogue occurs between the controller and commander.

First a "wake-up" code is transmitted to the controller. If it is valid for the entry point, a controller code is transmitted back to the commander. After a follow-

up communication, the door locking device on the entrypoint is released. The entire sequence only 70 milliseconds.

The controller codes are automatically and randomly changed every time they are initiated. There are two versions: Controlpoint; Identipoint and Pinpoint. The latter is similar to Identipoint (as described above) but with personal identification numbers built in for extra security.

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## Luminaires

PRODUCED in three sizes to take 16, 28 and 38W 2D energy-saving lamps, Moorlite's new Giotto range of circular luminaires are designed to give either recessed or surface-mounted options. There is also a square format luminaire, also with the two mounting options, as well as a choice of louvre or prismatic diffusers. Self-contained emergency versions are available in the 16 and 28W circular fittings.



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## Ventilating ridge



WITH a free ventilation area of 8,770 sq m, the new ventilating ridge tile from Tarc Tiles has a considerably larger capacity than many on the market. Yet despite this, it still succeeds in being unobtrusive and completely weatherproof, even in severe exposure conditions. The flat round ridge tile is available from all profiles of Tarc tiles and supplied in three colours. Internally the throat of the charcoal grey pvc ventilator is fitted with a pre-cut pvc sheet.

Enter 104 ON EXPRESS ENQUIRY CARD

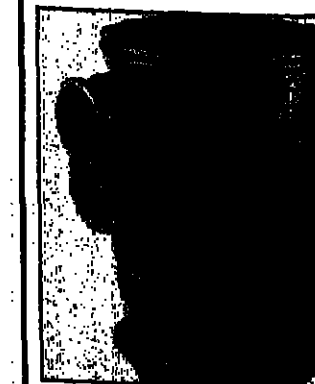
## Playgrounds

ACTION Packs is the name of a new collection of children's play equipment from SMP Playgrounds. In all there are 15 Action Packs which can produce almost any configuration of play features, including split-level towers of five different heights, linking bridges, ladders, cat walks, crawler tunnels and trapezes. These can also incorporate slides, swings, log cabins, roll-over bars and fireman's poles. Freedom of choice is the main facility.



Enter 105 ON EXPRESS ENQUIRY CARD

## Road gully



IDEAL for use on estate roads, new OsmaDrain road gully has been introduced by Wavin Building Products to its range of underground drainage products. Available in trapped and non-trapped forms, the new gully is quick and easy to fit with push-fit joints to a 150mm OsmaDrain system. The gully can also be used with traditional materials. It is extremely strong and has an anti-flooding collar which holds it in position while being surrounded in concrete.

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## Waterslide

WHERE space around the swimming pool is limited, it might be possible to slot in the new Davenport Leisure waterslide. Designed in consultation with a number of swimming pool managers, the new slide needs a space of only 1.8m x 2.5m and can be quickly installed without having to close down the pool. It can be manufactured to left- or right-hand conformation and can be easily relocated to another site.

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## Two ridges



ASPECT Roofing has announced the introduction of two new ridge tiles — the Gas Flue Ridge Terminal and a Ventilating Ridge Tile. The former has low flow resistance, as required by the British Gas Corporation, and has been designed to interfere as little as possible with the smooth ridge line. It complies fully with BS 5440: Part 1: 1987 for appliances with a rated input of not more than 60kW. This terminal and the ventilating ridge are both available in a full range of colours.

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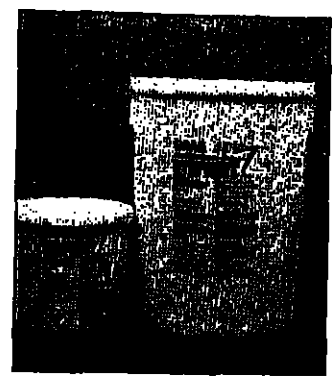
## Gas effect fire

AVAILABLE in two BS sizes (18in x 22in and 22in x 23in) the new gas-effect convectors from Jetmaster have outputs of 2.75 and 3.50kW. The company claims that there is a big demand for gas fires which look realistic and perform well — and this is precisely what Jetmaster says it has provided. The new fires will be available through a widespread distributor network and will be backed by tv advertising.



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## Anti-dusting

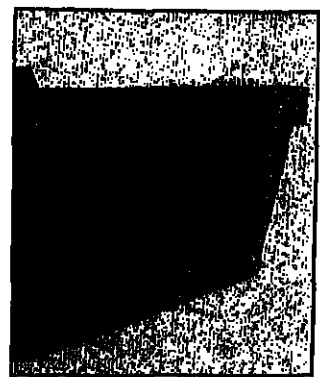


WHETHER the surface is concrete, granolithic, blockwork, brickwork or masonry, GRAB's new surface treatment — Stopdust — will penetrate the material and stop dusting. It will also harden the surface and make it waterproof and resistant to attack by alkalis and oil. Stopdust is applied by an applicator or soft sweeping brush and, given dry conditions, a floor so treated will be ready for use the following day.

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## Insulated gutters

MUSTANG Metal Products has introduced a new range of insulated industrial valley gutters. Their top and bottom skins are of aluminium, while their core is of high-density insulation or various types depending on the insulation factor required. These gutters have high flow capacity, with no inner components, overlap or staggered joints to introduce cold spots. The specification of insulated gutters is becoming more frequent, in order to reduce condensation risk and improve overall thermal insulation.



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## Play equipment



TOTAL design flexibility is claimed by Chipman for its Designer Logs modular play structures. The secret is that the structures are built up from a series of 150mm diameter Douglas fir, non-splitting logs, from which can be assembled swings, slides, ladders, platforms, bridges, ramps and many more play structures. The system is backed by a Design Pack which allows the customer to establish the range of options on offer and determine the best solution for his purposes.

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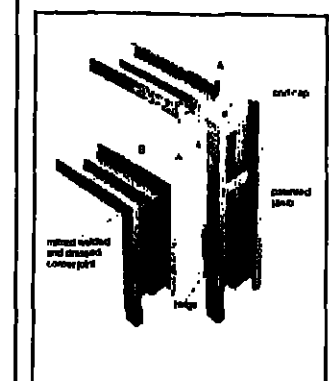
## New products

## Pencil palace

DESIGNED to co-ordinate with other Elton Office Products' range of organisers for the home, office and studio, the Pencil Palace has a sculptured, radially formed with five compartments of different heights in which to store pens, pencils, rulers, paper clips — all the jumble that accumulates in most work and domestic environments. The Pencil Palace is manufactured in see-through, smoke-coloured plastic and is available at under £5.

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## Metal frames



STEEL door frames for timber, steel or pvc doors have been launched by George Whitehouse Engineering. SQ Knock-Down frames have a patented jamb-to-head joint, allowing the frame to be installed in an opening in a fully finished partition or wall. Simple styling, strength and fire resistance are qualities of these door frames, which suit most door leaves. They are fully prepared for hardware, easy to install and can be supplied in a fully welded form.

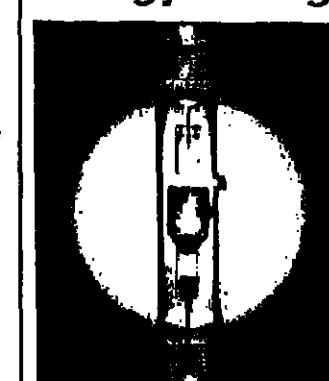
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## Kitemarked cover

WAYN has announced that its Osma Drain cast-iron cover and frame for universal inspection chambers has been awarded a BS1 Kitemark. Developed for Grade C loading applications, the nominal 450mm circular cover and frame has been designed to give long-term reliability, coupled with ease of installation. There are two versions — a standard single seal cover and a double seal with stainless steel locking screws for internal applications.

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## Energy-saving lamps



POWER Star 11Q-TS metal halide lamps from Woton Lamps use little energy, have high luminous efficacy, good colour rendering and long service life. They come in three power ratings — 70, 150 and 250W. The 70W lamp is available in two colour temperatures, warm and intermediate. These are particularly suited to display windows. Ambient lighting in showrooms, on the other hand, is best fulfilled with the 250W Power Star.

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KUNSTSTOFFE

Longlife

## Special shapes from Westbrick

Realise the full design potential of your buildings by adding unique individuality and character with Westbrick special shaped bricks. Westbrick offers an unrivalled range of standard special shaped bricks in a wide choice of colours and textures, or our Design Service. Architects can advise on all aspects of brickwork design.

Westbrick experience, allied to the unique Westbrick Quality Assurance Guarantee, ensures a brick to standards no other company can match.

Find out more from Westbrick Limited, Pinhoe, Exeter, EX4 8UL. Telephone 0300 264001.

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WESTBRICK

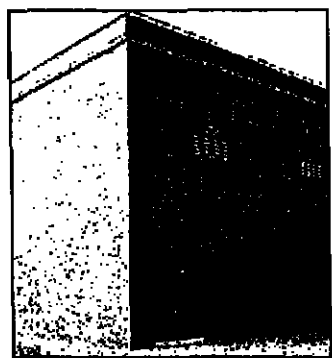
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# Technical literature

## Brick book

BAGGERIDGE Brick has published a new data pack containing a company profile/product selector leaflet, 12 new individual data sheets, each detailing one of Baggeridge's existing range of high-quality facing bricks, and the special shaped brick brochure published earlier this year. All are contained in a neat ring binder.



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## Door operators

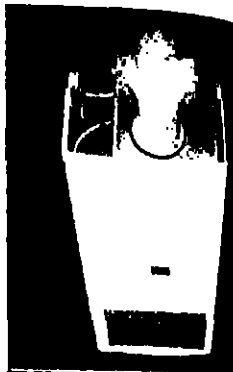
DOR-O-MATIC has published a 12-page colour brochure in which its door operator equipment is described. The Euro-Dor microprocessor controlled door operator, Astro-Slide electro-mechanical sliding door system and Astro-Swing door for the disabled are all included with full technical specifications. In addition, the brochure contains data concerning Dor-O-Matic's activators and accessories.



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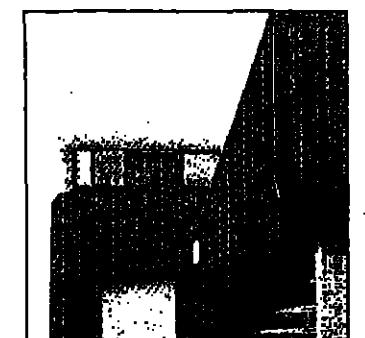
## Boiler

LATEST in Vaillant's family of wall-hung boilers is the fan-assisted Thermocompact RSF. This is described in a six-page leaflet. It offers electronic pilotless ignition with modulating output down to about 40 per cent of the rated output. The fan-assisted concept calls for a small flow unit and terminal which can be sited up to 2.92m away from the appliance and in any position, as the flow routes horizontally through 160 degrees.



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## Composite cladding



TECHNICAL details for both roof and wall cladding in Trisomet are furnished in H H Robertson's new 12-page brochure. Load/span graphs are included, as well as construction details for overhanging eaves and curved eaves, among other critical building features. The brochure also examines the problems of condensation in site-assembled built-up constructions.

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## Brown windows



HILLALDAM Coburn has introduced the Havana brown finish to its Solar Series 6000 aluminium casement windows to match its Solar 101 patio door. These are now included in an updated, eight-page brochure. Series 6000 windows are tailor-made to suit individual openings and are available in white polyester powder paint, as well as Havana brown or in natural anodised finish.

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## Resin products

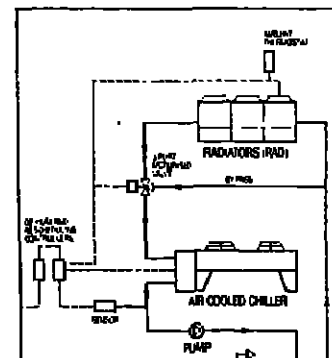


PROTECTIVE Materials has published a four-page quick-reference guide to its resin products. More than 50 items are included, each with brief details. The sections making up the guide include sealers, coatings and dustproofers, floor screeds and surface products, chemical resistant tiling materials, glue bearings and fixings, and concrete repair products and render.

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## Energy saving

EXPLOITING free-cooling concepts, two Ambicool systems are examined in a new four-page leaflet from Denco to show how energy consumption can be reduced in air-conditioned computer suites, telephone exchanges and similar locations. Ambicool DX and Ambicool CW use ambient temperature to save on mechanical refrigeration in the air-conditioning units. The lower the outside temperature, the greater are the benefits.



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## Weathersealing

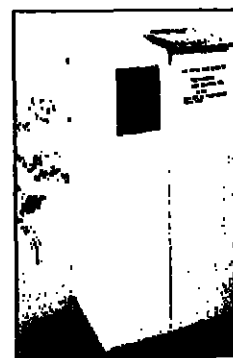
FOLLOWING the success of its 'specifiers' guide, Schlegel Engineering has published a compact, pocket-sized guide to weathersealing techniques. This will be particularly useful as an on-site reference for estimators and fitters. Its 32 pages give a detailed insight into Schlegel's door and window sealing devices in a number of different materials. In each case it gives the most popular choice of Weatherseal device, plus two alternatives.



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## Disposal units

DETAILING its Sanimacerator 50 and 75 ranges of sanitary-toilet disposal units, Econa Appliances' new four-page brochure gives dimensional drawings of each model and full technical specifications. The Model 75 range includes floor, wall and recessed units; the Model 50 are wall-mounted machines. Safety and ease of operation are the chief qualities claimed for these appliances. They are fully automatic and no flue is required.



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WESTBRICK LTD  
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**Durox Infilbloks**

For use in suspended concrete flooring

Durox Infilbloks are lightweight void formers used between reinforced concrete ribs to reduce the overall deadweight of insitu floors. The reduction in weight loading should allow for considerable savings in costs of foundations, supporting beams and columns. Formwork design is simplified and the finished floor will allow extra services not originally specified. Services can be located through the Durox Infilbloks and false ceiling brackets can be easily fixed thus obviating the need for cast-in hangers.

## Lighten the load on your structure and on your budget.

Durox Infilbloks are rectangular blocks of aircrete (autoclaved aerated concrete), a lightweight but strong and thermally efficient material. They may be incorporated in structures designed to comply with CP 110: Part 1: 1972 'The Structural Use of Concrete' or CP 114: 1989 'The Structural Use of Concrete in Buildings'. A structural surface is formed with a minimum of 50mm mesh-reinforced monolithic topping.

**Standard Durox Infilblok range:**  
Length: 300 or 600mm Width: 300, 430 or 600mm Thicknesses: 100-280mm  
Other sizes can be manufactured to specification.

Durox Infilbloks have been successfully used in offices, shops, multi-storey car parks, hotels, hospitals and telephone exchanges.

For further details on design or applications, contact our Technical Department:

**Aerated Concrete Ltd**  
Linford  
Stanford-le-Hope  
Essex SS17 0PY  
Tel: 0375 673344  
Telex: 995063

### Situations wanted

**LIVELY ENTHUSIASTIC LADY** (21) who degree in Architecture (2.2) seeks position for year out in the London area. No office experience, but very keen. No phone please write to: J. G. Holdings, 38 Adair House, Stockwell, London SW9 6AD

**LIBRARIAN** - qualified and experienced. Available for freelance work in Manchester and N. Cheshire. Tel: 0161 488 8158 (after 5pm)

**ARCHITECTURAL TECHNICIAN** seeks freelance or part time work. Based in NW1. Tel: 01 487 3305.

**ARCHITECT** (1981) 15 years experience in the Bristol area of London. Phone 0272 280024 or 01 287 0651

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**HELP EMPLOYED ARCHITECT** with own office offers his services to the profession and building industry in the Dorset area. Tel: 01305 53062

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### Miscellaneous

**HISTORIC ART IRON** (19th century) for sale. Tel: 01 287 8158 after 5pm

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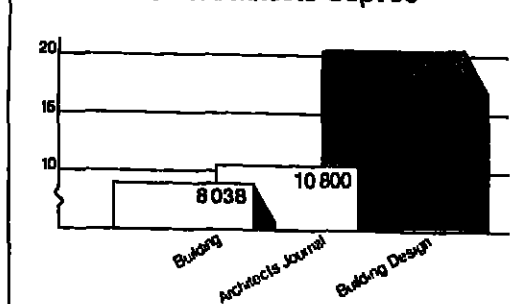
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Applications are invited from technicians who have attained HNC or equivalent in Building, Good draughtsmanship and a sound knowledge of building construction are essential.

Salary by negotiation. Please apply in writing with CV to:  
Wyn Thomas + Partners  
Chartered Town Planners, Landscape Architects  
Architects Andrew Building, 87 Queen Street, Cardiff CF1 1AU.

## SPRATLEY CULLEARN &amp; PHILLIPS

Manchester require an

## ARCHITECT

to join their lively young office. You must have two years experience and be looking for the opportunity to build a career based on design excellence and technical expertise.

Please telephone Anne Edmundson-Spratley Cullearn & Phillips  
Massey Chambers, 8 Booth Street  
Manchester M2 6LW  
061-236 3143

## HUNT THOMPSON ASSOCIATES

have opportunities for

## SENIOR ARCHITECTS, JOB ARCHITECTS &amp; ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANTS

Please write with CV to:

Edward Burd  
Hunt Thompson Associates  
79 Parkway, London NW1 7PP

## BUILDING SURVEYOR/ARCHITECT

Up to £11,559 p.a. - 1st Class Award

A major registered Housing Association based in modern central offices in North London requires Assistant Surveyor/Architect to join the in-house Design Team.

The work initially for 6 months, will be primarily concerned with an improvement and repair scheme for elderly owner occupiers in North London. The postholder will also assist in all aspects of the Trusts Rehabilitation Programme including initial survey, preparing drawings and specifications, site supervision and final accounts.

A good knowledge of housing maintenance and improvement work is essential and applicants must have the ability to work on their own initiative.

Application forms and further details from:  
Ian Morris AMCS  
Chief Surveyor  
Metropolitan Housing Trust Ltd  
Cambridge House  
699 Hayes Road  
Wood Green  
London N22 6UR  
The Trust is an equal opportunities employer.

## ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT (2 POSTS)

SALARY PER ANNUM: UP TO £14,778

Applications are invited for the above posts in the Corporation's Department of Architecture. The positions on offer would be for a period of 2 years.

The successful applicants will possess several years experience in a private or public authority office with proven ability both on the board and on site. He/ she will report to the appropriate Senior Architect or Group Leader with responsibility for the particular project in hand.

The Department of Architecture is currently involved in the design and construction of special needs and sheltered housing, rehabilitation work on up to 500 houses per year or part of a long-term refurbishment, and new build. The successful applicants will be expected to make a substantial contribution towards this workload.

Salary placing will be related to qualifications and experience; generous annual leave and public holiday entitlement, and choice of superannuation schemes. Car loan scheme and allowances may be available.

Application forms are available from the Personnel Department. Completed forms should be returned within 14 days of the appearance of this advertisement. East Kilbride Development Corporation, Alnoli House, East Kilbride, G74 1LU. Tel. East Kilbride 41111.

## East Kilbride Development Corporation

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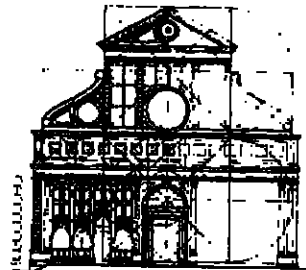


**FITZROY ROBINSON PARTNERSHIP**  
 require the services of an

**ARCHITECTURAL TECHNICIAN**

to work on a permanent or freelance basis.  
 Work comprises working drawings and detailing on both new build and refurbishment projects.  
 Applicant should have at least 3 years experience on large scale commercial buildings and be able to work with a minimum of supervision.  
 Please reply giving full details of age, experience and salary required to:-

The Personnel Assistant,  
 Fitzroy Robinson Partnership,  
 77 Portland Place, London W1N 4EP.

**ARCHITECTS**
**DESIGN**
**PARTNERSHIP**


ADP are seeking young, enthusiastic

**Qualified Architects & Part II Students**

to assist with an expanding workload of exciting projects, both new and refurbishment, in the public and private sectors.  
 We have vacancies in pleasant offices in both Henley on Thames and London.

Please write with career and personal details to:  
 Practice Manager  
 Architects Design Partnership  
 Northfield End, Henley on Thames, Oxon RG9 2HW

**Tripe and Wakeham Partnership**

require

**A SENIOR ARCHITECT**
**ARCHITECTS**
**SENIOR TECHNICIANS**

to participate on a range of interesting projects involving retail, industrial and office developments.

Salaries by negotiation.  
 Please apply in writing with your full CV to:  
 S J Snook

Tripe & Wakeham Partnership  
 16 Fitzhardinge Street  
 London W1H 0ER

**Project Architects**

(and a Graduate who aspires to be one!)

& competitive  
 Leicester and  
 Merthyr Tydfil

Our Practice is well into a ( hectic ) period of planned expansion. This is great for our bank balance, but has done little to relieve our stress factor! We must, therefore, recruit three additional members to the team as soon as possible. A Project Architect with a minimum of 3/4 years' experience for Leicester - the same for our South Wales office. Leicester also needs an enthusiastic Graduate: someone with Part II, or perhaps who's just obtained Part III.

We're a fairly young (mid 20's - mid 30's) close-knit team of talented professionals. We're lively, hard working and we thrive on the 'buzz' a busy office and varied projects give. We work for Local Authorities, the Private Sector and for Housing Associations.

We're choosy though. We only want the best - Project Architects confident enough to work without supervision, who like the thought of total responsibility for running efficient, cost effective assignments; who realise the importance of thorough research and tight administration. In short, who are commercially aware with good business brains.

Our philosophy has always been to promote from within. We recognise talent and reward it accordingly.  
 Does your background and personality match our image? Then write today with full CV details to David Taylor, Partner, Stephen George & Partners, 170 London Road, Leicester LE2 1ND.

**STEPHEN GEORGE & PARTNERS**

VERION GIBBS PARTNERSHIP - BATH  
 Architects + landscape Architects  
 Small practice with work on both new and conservation projects. Regularly require:  
 ARCHITECTURAL GRADUATE  
 (RIBA Part II)  
 ARCHITECTURAL TECHNICIAN  
 (RIBA Part I)  
 Car drivers essential  
 CV with salary requirements and date available to:  
 19 Belmont, Bath BA1 3DZ 0915 3391137

**GRADUATE ARCHITECT/TECHNICIAN**  
 with minimum 5 years experience to join small central London practice for varied cross section of work.  
 Immediate start. Salary commensurate with age and experience.  
 Telephone Stewart Watson  
 01-491 1972  
 for appointment

**TECHNICIANS**  
 Build your career on our reputation. Licia Newby wanted position for experienced CAD Technician. DNEG + Car.  
 Notion Senior position in busy practice - housing/industrial. £11,000 + Car.  
 Notion Housing developer seeks young 24-28 Technician for layouts and working drawings. £10g.  
 Note large scale commercial schemes. Salary up to £11,000.  
 Write or call Brian Tiltton  
 DESIGN TO BUILD PERSONNEL  
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 Nottingham NG1 6BH  
 Telephone (0502) 472028  
 24 hours


**Architect - Solihull**

We are a small expanding Practice and would be pleased to hear from a highly motivated young architect looking for an opportunity for responsibility and rapid advancement. Attractive salary commensurate with ability and experience.  
 P L Jervis RIBA 021 744 7083  
 86 Lawnswood Avenue, Solihull, W Midlands B90 3QU

**SENIOR ARCHITECT**

We are seeking a self motivated person to join our design team based in Cheltenham covering our expanding South West Region.

The successful candidate will head the Architects section assisting the Regional Planning Manager, and will possess good, sound managerial and administrative skills, which are considered to be an important function of this post.

In addition, experience, flair and imagination in the design of good quality housing and layouts, plus a sound knowledge of all current legislation and standards related to residential developments are essential.

A company car will be provided, together with conditions of employment appertaining to a large and successful company. We are an equal opportunities employer. Applications in writing to be sent to:

Mr. D. A. Chare, Regional Planning Manager,  
 Bovis Homes Limited, South West Region,  
 Bovis House, Wincombe Street,  
 Cheltenham, Glos. GL52 2PG.



**Bovis**  
 Bovis Homes Division  
 A member of the PBO Group

**Build Yourself An Exciting Career**

Atkins Sheppard Fidler and Associates are looking to expand their architectural team to undertake a number of interesting new projects. We need creative, self-motivated people to join our team - in particular:-

**Architects and Graduates**

either recently qualified or with 2-3 years experience, who have RIBA Part 2 or 3.

**Architectural Technicians**

with HNC or equivalent and 3-10 years experience.

Our recent projects include:  
 The buildings for Docklands Light Railway National Garden Festival, Stoke-on-Trent Refurbishment at Chatham Dockyard New and Refurbished offices, Epsom Town Centre, Sheltered Housing, Epsom King Fahad Medical City, Riyadh Selby Coalfield Arabian Gulf University

**Atkins Sheppard Fidler and Associates**

We can offer you:

- unusually varied work
- the opportunity to exercise your creative skills to the full
- work at home and abroad
- design and site experience
- a salary to match your ability

As a result of our expanding work load in the Middle East, one appointment will be to a fluent Arabic speaker. You should be able to show high quality architectural skills combined with a practical knowledge of the customs and culture of the Middle East. Current contacts with fellow architects in the construction industry in the Middle East will be particularly helpful.

If you would like to discuss the possibilities further please telephone Epsom (0372) 236555, Extension 2728, or send your CV to: Mrs K A Jackson, Atkins Sheppard Fidler and Associates, Woodcote Grove, Ashley Road, Epsom, Surrey KT18 6BW.

**WATERHOUSE & RIPLEY**
**require ARCHITECTS**

for interesting commercial and industrial projects at design stage.  
 Minimum 5 years experience. Salary by arrangement.  
 Please write or telephone  
 50 Charlotte Street  
 London W1  
 01-637 0881

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Value Added Tax will be chargeable at the standard rate (18%) on all advertisements. This tax can be reclaimed by all VAT registered companies from H.M. Customs and Excise.

**IF YOU WANT A QUIET, DULL, EASY TIME, DON'T BOTHER TO APPLY TO US**

We are looking for lively, cheerful, non-smoking, hard working and athletic Architects and Technicians to join this very busy thriving practice which has full RUCAP CAD back-up. At the moment our sports and social activities are being heavily curtailed due to pressure of work.

**THIS CANNOT BE ALLOWED TO CONTINUE!**

If you can help please phone Robert Davies, John West Associates - Staines 59211


**ALEXANDRA PALACE & PARK**
**Landscape Officer (Qualified)**

£8,813-£12,861 Sliding Scale 5, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14

You will join a busy multi-disciplinary office mid-way through the re-development of Alexandra Palace and Park. You will have responsibility for all aspects of Landscape Architecture associated with the development. You must have a high level of skill, experience and an interest in both hard landscape and ecological design. The diversity of workload illustrates the character and regional importance of Alexandra Palace and Park and the position provides an ideal opportunity for a talented landscape architect to continue the scheme through to the opening of the Palace in 1988.

You should ideally be PART IV qualified, with considerable experience.

**Assistant Architect**

Scale 6 - £9,672-£10,284

A recently qualified architect is required to work with the Architectural Project Team running the £30 million reconstruction of Alexandra Palace. Design detailing experience and an interest in restoration and historical aspects of architecture are essential requirements.

The appointment will initially be for one year and may be extended depending on the workload and duration of the contract.

As this is a re-advertisement previous applicants need not re-apply.

Haringey is an equal opportunity employer. We welcome your applications which will be considered on merit, irrespective of race, marital status, sex or any disability you may have.

Contact: Ann Wilds, Development Team, Alexandra Palace, Wood Green, London N22 4AY. Tel: 01-883 8477 ext 253. Closing date - 24th October 1986

HARINGEY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

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**ARCHITECTURAL VACANCIES**

We have a large number of clients actively seeking experienced

**TECHNICIANS, ARCHITECTS and ASSISTANTS**

throughout the UK. If you are seeking Permanent or Contract work in the Architectural field...

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 (0244) 488488 9a.m. - 5.30p.m.  
 183 Brighthelm Road, Southampton, Hants. SO2 4BH.  
 (0703) 529064 (SOUTHAMPTON)  
 (01) 831 2434 (LONDON) (0438) 312008 (STEVENAGE)

**MWT ARCHITECTS**

We have 200 staff in 8 South of England offices, where we seek to maintain and polish our high standards of design.

Our Ipswich office needs high calibre staff of all levels to contribute their skill and enthusiasm to a range of interesting projects. These positions offer an excellent remuneration package and opportunities for career development within a lively and progressive environment.

Please telephone Amanda Etheridge on 0473 213867 for an Application Form.

**INTERIOR DESIGNER**

Building Design Partnership is a multi-professional design practice, with offices in several locations throughout the country. Due to an increased workload in the fields of retail, office and hotel design, we are seeking a young, enthusiastic interior designer to assist our team in the Preston office.

Candidates should have a recognised qualification in Interior design and preferably 1/2 years relevant experience.

Salary negotiable plus excellent fringe benefits and career prospects. Please write giving full CV details to



JOHN NOVAK  
 BUILDING DESIGN PARTNERSHIP  
 VERNON STREET  
 MOOR LANE  
 PRESTON PR1 3PQ


**Simply streets ahead**

Eckard House, Easton Road, Witham, Essex  
 CM8 2DW Telephone: (0376) 520644

**ASSISTANT ENGINEER**

Tarmac Homes Essex Ltd., a member of the Tarmac Group, are continuing their rapid expansion in private housing development. The company are now seeking to appoint a suitably qualified engineer to assist in the preparation of roads and sewer design, negotiation with Local Authorities and statutory undertakers and liaison with other departments. The successful applicant will be expected to demonstrate initiative and self motivation. Salary and benefits including a company car will reflect the importance of the position associated with this successful company.

Written applications to:  
 Bob Cartwright  
 Design & Planning Manager



A member of the Tarmac Group of Companies

**THE FITZROY ROBINSON PARTNERSHIP**

require the services of an

**ASSISTANT ARCHITECT**

To be involved in a major project within the London area. The person selected will have had at least 3 to 4 years experience within a London based practice.

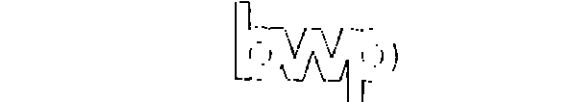
Salary by negotiation.  
 Please reply, in confidence, giving details of age, experience and salary required to:-

The Personnel Assistant  
 The Fitzroy Robinson Partnership  
 77 Portland Place, London W1N 4EP

**DEREK LOVEJOY & PARTNERS, CRAWLEY**  
 Would like to interview immediately enthusiastic and self motivated

**Landscape Architects & Graduates**

with good draughting skills to cope with increasing workload.  
 Please write with CV to:-  
 Derek Lovejoy & Partners  
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**JOIN THE NEW ELITE**

Due to the continued expansion of our Computer Aided Design System we urgently require another operator.

The successful applicant, an Architectural Technician or Assistant, is likely to have five years' office experience including the preparation of working drawings for industrial, commercial and residential projects and be capable of working with the minimum of supervision.

Experience with CAD advantageous, but not necessary as full training will be given.  
 Attractive salary and benefits, including paid overtime.  
 Please apply in writing with full CV and present salary to:-  
 The Barton Williams Partnership  
 Architects and Town Planners  
 Beauchamp Farmhouse, Bottom Close  
 Calcot, Reading, Berkshire RG3 7BW

**Somerset County Council**

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER

**PLANNING DEPARTMENT**
**County Hall, Taunton**
**LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT**

Scale 5 (£7,920-£8,697 pay award pending)

Applications are invited for this new post in the Environment Group of the Council's Planning Department, which has been created as a direct result of the Department's increased activities in the field of countryside management.

The postholder will assist senior staff in a wide range of tasks including: landscape works; tree planting; woodland and amenity land management; local plan implementation works; and advice/consultancy etc. The duties include: site inspections/survey; preparation of detailed designs, site plans and contract documentation relating to countryside/landscape matters; and technical assistance in relation to countryside enhancement and conservation.

Applicants should be members of the Landscape Institute and must be qualified to a minimum of the Institute's Part 3 examination or equivalent. A full driving licence is essential. The post carries a casual car user allowance.

Application forms and an information pack can be obtained from the County Planning Officer, Somerset County Council, County Hall, Taunton, Somerset TA1 4DY - Tel: 0823 65407.  
 Closing Date: 31/10/86  
 Interviews: 18/11/86

**HUTCHISON LOCKE AND MONK**
**have vacancies for CAD ARCHITECTS & TECHNICIANS**


This is an opportunity to use your CAD experience utilising our GDS computer system, while participating fully within a design team.

Please write with CV to:

Leslie Welch  
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 Surrey TW10 6GX

**ARCHITECT/DESIGNER**

TO £17,500 P.A. A small young practice engaged with both new building and interiors projects, needs someone with broad experience of housing, retail/catering and commercial work. To take a key role in their future development.

**YOUNG ARCHITECTS**

TO £13,000 P.A. Design and job running responsibilities for Architects with 2-3 years' post-diploma experience working with central London architects/surveyors handling private and public housing and commercial new build and refurbishment.

**ARCHITECTURAL TECHNICIAN**

TP £15,000 P.A. A rare chance for a Senior Technician to take responsibility for their own major retail projects in a company that offers a promising future.

Please telephone Malcolm Scott or Stephen Rimmer or write with CV to:-

**ADREM RECRUITMENT LIMITED**  
 15 Old Court Place Kensington London W8 4PL 01-938 3433

**ARCHITECT WORKING, SURREY**

Chartered Building Surveyors require an Architect with a minimum of 5 years post qualification experience for interesting variety of medium sized new build and refurbishment projects including Local Authority and private housing, commercial, industrial and listed building projects.

Telephone, prior to writing with full CV, to:  
 David C. Hollis FRICS  
 DAVID HOLLIS & ASSOCIATES  
 31A Watlington Road, Woking  
 Surrey GU24 0DL  
 Woking (04482) 49888

**DAMOND LOCK GRABOWSKI & PARTNERS**  
 are looking for two experienced

**JOB RUNNERS**

with high design standards and an ability to motivate teams to achieve complex requirements in tight time schedules.

Excellent prospects with an expanding and dynamic team.

Please send full C.V. and employment details to:-

Christine Harwood  
 Damond Lock Grabowski & Partners  
 12 Sutton Row, London W1V 6AB

**TECHNICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT**  
 Following a comprehensive review of the Council's Capital and Revenue Building Programmes the Director of Technical Services is recruiting suitably qualified staff for these vacant posts in his Architects Division.

**BUILDING SURVEYORS**

(Two Posts)  
 £9,513 to £10,164 p.a.

The successful applicants for these two posts will be experienced qualified surveyors who will be capable of successful integration with an existing team of building surveyors employed on an extensive programme of improvements and maintenance scheme to Council-owned housing and property.

**ASSISTANT BUILDING SURVEYORS**

(Three Posts)  
 £7,911 to £8,172 p.a.

The applicants selected to fill these three new posts in the Building Surveyors Section will become members of small teams of surveyors who are engaged in the Council's programme of improvement and maintenance works to Council-owned housing and property.

**SENIOR ARCHITECTURAL TECHNICIAN**

(One Post)  
 £7,311 to £8,172 p.a.

This new post is located in the Architectural Section of the Division and the selected applicant will be expected to provide supporting technical services to the Principal Architect and Architectural Assistants employed on the Council's Capital Building Programmes.

**ARCHITECTURAL TECHNICIAN**

(One Post)  
 £6,608 to £7,158 p.a.

The selected applicant for this new post will join a small team of technicians providing supporting services to the teams of building surveyors engaged in the Council's programmes of improvement and maintenance of Council-owned housing and property.

For further details and application forms please contact the Personnel Department, Level 6, Civic Offices, Civic Centre, Reading, Berkshire RG1 7TD. Telephone: Reading (0734) 58911 ext. 2932. Closing date: 17th October 1986

The Borough Council is an Equal Opportunity Employer



**READING**  
 Borough Council

**HUBBARD FORD PARTNERSHIP**  
Young team with large number of commercial and historic building projects require

**2 ARCHITECTS**  
with 3 years London experience.  
Ambition and talent essential with a proven ability to run their own jobs.  
Generous salaries for the right candidates.  
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Renton Howard Wood Levin Partnership

**RHWL**

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A young  
**ARCHITECT**  
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Please apply with C.V. marking your application "Offices" to:  
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## WORKING FOR LAMBETH

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As an Equal Opportunity Employer, Lambeth Council is committed to increasing employment opportunities for people with disabilities. Although the jobs in this advertisement are open to any applicants, applications will be particularly welcome from people with disabilities.



## DIRECTORATE OF TOWN PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

### Planning Officer —

#### Urban Design

Ref T8  
Salary: £11,864-£14,289 p.a. Inc. pro rata

Job Share — 17 hours per week  
Worked over Thursday and Friday

Applications are invited for the post of Architect/Planner or Architect in the Urban Design Group of the Directorate of Town Planning and Economic Development.

The work of the group involves the following:

- preparation of conservation area proposals;
- Design advice and grants/loan aid scheme supervision for historic buildings;
- townscape advice and feasibility studies for new development;
- preparation of environmental enhancement schemes; advice on town planning applications.

Candidates should be able to demonstrate a broad knowledge and experience of urban design and conservation or possess a keen interest to acquire the necessary experience.

Although a professional qualification in Town Planning and other related professional discipline is desirable, an architect with suitable experience or keen interest will also be considered.

Application forms and Job Descriptions are obtainable from the Personnel Section, Directorate of Town Planning and Economic Development, London Borough of Lambeth, 9-15 New Park Road, London SW2 4DU or telephone 01 674 9844 ext. 172. Closing date 18 October 1988.

**LAMBETH**  
SERVICES WELL WORTH DEFENDING

As part of the Council's Equal Opportunity Policy, applications will be considered on the basis of merit and without regard to race, sex, religion, age, sexual orientation, or disability. The Council is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

**ELLIS WILLIAMS PARTNERSHIP**  
urgently seek qualified

**ARCHITECTS**  
with 2-5 years post graduate experience to work on new commercial, educational and industrial projects.  
Write with C.V. to:-  
C. S. Spencer  
Ellis Williams Partnership  
96 Rodney Street  
Liverpool L1 9TL  
Tel: 051 709 9816

**Ruddle Wilkinson & Partners**  
Architects • Interior Designers • Quantity Surveyors • Town Planners •  
We have an exciting, varied and expanding workload and need to reinforce our highly motivated young teams with

**ARCHITECTS**  
**SENIOR TECHNICIANS**  
**INTERIOR DESIGNERS**  
Please send C.V. to:-  
J.W.F. Durand, Ruddle Wilkinson and Partners,  
84 Lincoln Road, Peterborough, PE1 2SW.

**Middlesbrough Borough Council**

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PROPERTY DEPARTMENT

**Senior Architectural Technicians**  
£9,513-£10,164

Vacancies exist in the architectural service for qualified technicians to join a group of architects and technicians working on a wide range of building types involving existing buildings as well as new build.

If you are interested in joining a pleasant, friendly office, are prepared to work hard and can show a commitment to producing a good quality and product please apply for an application form and job description to Chief Economic Development and Property Officer, Middlesbrough Borough Council P.O. Box 65, Vancouver House, Central Mews, Gurney Street, Middlesbrough Cleveland, TS1 1QP Telephone 245432 Extension 3882.

If you would like to talk about this job you are welcome to speak to Tom Riding (Assistant Chief Officer — Architecture) on Extension 3767

Closing date 10 October 1988.

It is the policy of Middlesbrough Borough Council to provide equal employment opportunities and consideration will be given to all suitably experienced and qualified applicants regardless of handicap, sex or race.

The Council has a policy of inviting for interview all disabled persons who have written support of their Disabling Resettlement Officer.

Job sharing facilities are available.

The staffing structure of the Authority and the Planning Department has recently been revised by the Council and we are now seeking:

**Principal Architect**  
Grade 301 — Scale PO4  
£10,569-£12,894

Hart District contains 17 conservation areas, mainly in old villages including the outstanding conservation area of Oldham. The review list of buildings of architectural and historic interest is shortly to be published and contains over 1000 entries. The District is, however, subject to intense pressure for change and development and the task of this postholder will be to secure the retention and enhancement of what is best (particularly in the built environment) and to promote the highest standards of design in new development.

Generous relocation expenses (Up to £2,700 plus removals)  
Temporary housing subject to availability

Application forms obtainable from:  
The Chief Personnel Officer  
Civil Offices, Fleet  
Hants GU13 8AE  
(Telephone: Fleet 822122, ext 341)  
Closing date: 28th October, 1988

**Hart**  
DISTRICT COUNCIL  
An Equal Opportunity Employer (A3496)

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Ring 01-855 7777 Extension 571, or write to him at:  
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**SITE ARCHITECT**  
**MANCHESTER**  
16 Month exciting leisure pool contract starting 1st November.

**QUALIFIED ARCHITECTS**  
**COVENT GARDEN**  
Architects with at least 2 years experience to work on leisure projects.

**SARGENT & POTIRIADIS**  
**ARCHITECTS AND LEISURE PLANNERS**  
5 Dryden Street, Covent Garden, London WC2E 6NW  
01-240 2430

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## ALTRINCHAM & YORK

Are you an enthusiastic and creative Young Architect, possibly recently qualified?

Do you wish to exercise your design skills on buildings which will make a positive contribution to the environment, often in Conservation Areas and Towns and Cities of Historic Importance?

Have you developed graphic skills and would like to utilise them more fully?

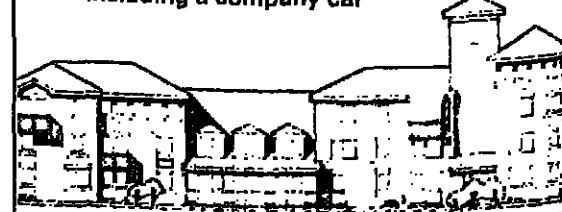
Do you want to see your designs translated into reality quickly, without the long delays that so often occur?

Would you like to become part of a small team of professional staff, working in a pleasant and informal office environment?

If so, why not join us. We are the acknowledged leading specialists in the provision of housing for the elderly and require Architects to join our Regional Design Group at Altrincham and in our newly opened office in York.

The Regional Design Group is a multi-disciplinary team committed to providing excellence in design carried through from inception to completion on site.

We offer excellent career opportunities as well as an attractive benefits package, including a company car.



If you are interested, please write enclosing a full C.V. to Graham L. Day RIBA, Regional Architect, McCarthy & Stone, (Development) Ltd., Harrington House, Harrington Road, Broadheath, Altrincham, Cheshire WA14 5LS

**MCCARTHY & STONE**  
Building for a secure retirement.

**ARCHITECT**  
London £11-12k

Cable and Wireless, the worldwide telecommunications group, have established a nationwide telecommunications network for the Saudi Arabian National Guard.

We now need a young, recently qualified Architect to join our London based Architects team.

Reporting directly to the Project Architect, you will be responsible for preparing feasibility studies and working drawings plus sketch designs of buildings and civil works.

This is an ideal opportunity for someone with approximately one year's postqualification experience to become involved in a major architectural project.

This position is initially offered on a one year contract basis at a salary of £11-12k depending on age and experience plus benefits including flexible working hours and 22 days' annual holiday.

Please write with full CV or telephone for an application form, quoting ref. RB12, to: Recruitment Manager, Cable and Wireless plc, Mercury House, Theobalds Road, London WC1X 8BX.  
Tel: 01-405 4980 (24 hrs).

**Cable and Wireless**  
Helps the world communicate

**Principal Lecturer**  
**Interior Design**  
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